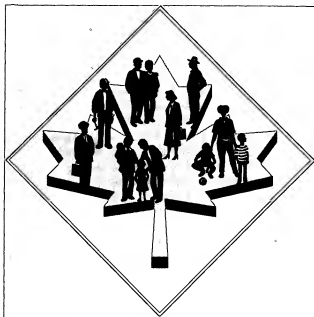


1986 Census of Canada

ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN CANADA



by Pamela M. White

Published under the authority of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion.

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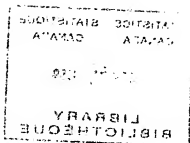
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PREFACE

The 1986 Census of Canada provided, as did all the previous censuses, a rich source of information on individual, family and household characteristics of Canadians. The census data allow individual researchers as well as academic, business, cultural, social and governmental organizations to undertake in-depth enquiries and analyses on those social issues which interest and concern them.

This study is part of the 1986 Focus on Canada Series. The series is a modest effort by Statistics Canada to provide overviews of a wide variety of subjects on which the 1986 Census collected information. The studies have been written by experts, both inside and outside Statistics Canada, in non-technical language supported by simple tables and attractive charts. The topics include demographic characteristics (population, families, farmers, youth, seniors, the disabled), socio-cultural characteristics (ethnicity, language, education), and economic characteristics (women in the labour force, affordability of housing, occupational trends, employment income, family income).

The present study on "Ethnic Diversity in Canada" was authored by Pamela M. White of Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division in Statistics Canada.

I would like to express my appreciation to the authors, to the reviewers and to the staff of the Bureau involved in managing and producing this series.

We hope that the studies in the Focus on Canada Series will not only provide Canadians with very useful information on various facets of Canadian society, but will also be an inducement for them to undertake further research on the topics.

Ivan P. Fellegi
Chief Statistician of Canada

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HIGHLIGHTS

- In 1986, nearly 7 million Canadians, or 28% of the population, reported that they were of mixed ethnic origins. For example, 17% of Canadians said their ethnic background included two ethnic groups, 7% reported an ethnic background that included three groups and 4% reported an ethnic background that involved four or more ethnic groups. Over 18 million Canadians, or 72% of the population, reported only one ethnic origin.
- On Census Day, the British group comprised 34% of the population and the French 24%. Persons of both British and French ethnic backgrounds made up 5% of the country's population, while another 13% had a mixed ethnic heritage of British and/or French and other origins. A quarter of Canadians reported neither British nor French origins. By contrast, in 1901, 57% of Canadians reported British, 31% gave French and 12% had neither a British nor French ethnic background.
- Successive waves of immigration have influenced the ethnic composition of Canada. The censuses of 1911 to 1931 recorded that immigrants comprised 22% of the country's population. Since then, the proportion of immigrants in Canada's population has declined. Since 1951, immigrants have represented about 16% of Canada's population.
- While the stock of Canada's immigrant population on Census Day 1986 reflected the long history of European and British immigration to Canada (63% of immigrants were born in Europe), the profile of Canada's recent immigrant population is changing.
- Of those immigrants enumerated in the 1986 Census who came to Canada prior to 1961, 87% were from Europe, 7% from the United States, 3% came from Asia and in total 3% came from the Caribbean, South and Central America, Africa and Oceania (includes Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands).
- In contrast, of those immigrants who came to Canada between 1981 and 1986, 43% came from Asia, 29% from Europe, 7% from the United States and over 20% came from the Caribbean, Africa and Oceania.
- The impact of immigration on the ethnic diversity of Canada can be seen when the top five ethnic groups for the non-immigrant and immigrant populations are compared. For example, among the non-immigrant population in 1986, the top five ethnic groups were British, French, German, Aboriginal and Ukrainian. Among Canada's immigrant population, according to the 1986 Census, the top five ethnic groups were British, Italian, Chinese, German and South Asian.

INTRODUCTION

At the turn of the century, Canada was a country comprised of two major ethnic groups: British and French. Persons of Aboriginal and European backgrounds (other than British and French) made up a relatively small proportion of the total population. By 1986, Canada had become a country where no one single ethnic or cultural group was dominant.

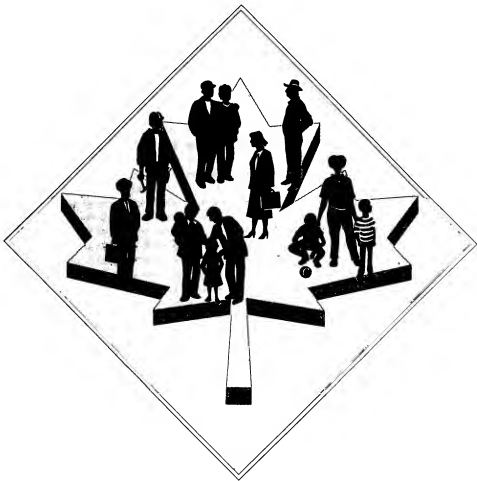
Successive waves of immigration from many homelands have created a multicultural Canada. During the early 1900s and following the Second World War, immigrants came to Canada from Western and Eastern Europe, as well as from the Scandinavian countries. In the 1960s immigrants increasingly came from Southern Europe and the United States, followed in the early 1970s by immigrants from Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Central and South America.

Ethnic diversity is an important feature of modern Canadian life. Multiculturalism, which is the recognition of the cultural and racial diversity of Canada and of the equality of Canadians of all origins, is integral to the country's social and economic well-being. In fact, Canada has been described as being a truly international nation, a cultural mosaic. This is in contrast to the United States, which has been characterized as a "melting pot" society in which ethnic identities are subsumed by a larger "American" national identity.

This study examines the ethnic diversity of the Canadian population. It shows changes in the country's ethnic composition since the turn of the century and, in particular, the relative proportions of the British, French and the non-British, non-French ethnic groups. Data from the 1986 Census are used to illustrate regional variations in the distribution of various ethnic groups, the relative size of ethnic communities and the contribution of immigration to the country's ethnic diversity. The report concludes with a discussion of two differing notions of ethnicity in North America: the melting pot and the cultural mosaic.

Census information on ethnic and cultural groups is used in many ways to provide input into public policy and planning. For example, ethno-cultural communities use census data to determine their relative size, location and characteristics, and to plan cultural activities. Similarly, provincial and federal departments may use the data to assess the need for heritage language programs. These data are also being more widely used in the private sector in applications such as marketing and opinion polling.

OVERVIEW



OVERVIEW

What is Ethnic Origin?

Ethnic or cultural origin refers to the ethnic or cultural "roots" or ancestral origin(s) of the population and should not be confused with aspects of citizenship or nationality. For example, Canadian citizens belong to many ethnic or cultural groups, including Inuit, North American Indian, Métis, Irish, Scottish, French, English, Ukrainian, Chinese, Japanese, Iranian, Haitian, and so on.

Increasing Complexity of Ethnic Origin Data

From every decennial census since 1901, it has been possible to determine the relative size of Canada's various ethnic groups to find out whether particular groups made up a large or small proportion of the total population and to compare the characteristics of one group with those of another.

Since 1981, Canadians have been able to describe more fully on the census form their ethnic background. In 1986, 28% of Canadians said that they were of mixed ethnic or cultural backgrounds. In total, 72% of Canadians gave one ethnic origin, 17% reported two origins, 7% gave three origins and 4% provided four or more origins.

A single ethnic origin response occurred when the respondent listed only one ethnic group. For example, in 1986, about 709,500 persons gave Italian as their only ethnic origin.

A multiple response occurred when the respondent provided two or more groups. For example, in 1986, over 297,000 persons gave an ethnic origin response that included Italian and one or more ethnic groups. Included in this type of multiple Italian response were over 32,000 respondents who had a mixed ethnic background of Italian and French.

In 1986, among the Canadian-born population, 30% gave a multiple response, but among the immigrant population just 10% gave a multiple ethnic origin response. As well, patterns of single and multiple response vary among ethnic groups. For example, 81% of all persons who gave Irish as their ethnic origin and 78% of all those who gave Scottish also included other ethnic or cultural groups.

This pattern was also evident for many of the Northern, Central and Eastern European groups where the proportion of the multiple response was often greater than 50%. In 1986, 56% of the Ukrainian, 60% of the Dutch and 64% of the German responses were multiple.

Other groups had much lower levels of multiple response; for example, 7% of Koreans, 12% of the Cambodians (Kampuchians), 13% of the Filipinos, 15% of Iranians and 16% of Vietnamese gave multiple responses. Single and multiple ethnic origin counts for selected ethnic origins are given in the Appendix.

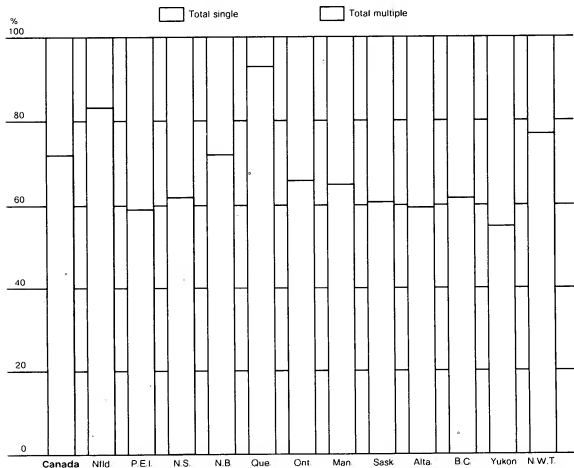
As well, there was considerable regional variation in the percentage distributions of single and multiple ethnic origin responses. For example, as shown in Chart 1, in 1986, 7% of respondents in Quebec gave a multiple response compared with the Yukon and Alberta, where 45% and 41% of the population, respectively, provided more than one ethnic origin.

Canada's Major Ethnic Groups and Their Regional Distribution

In 1986, the British and French were the most numerically dominant ethnic groups in Canada,¹ the British comprising 34% and the French 24% of Canada's population. The multiple response combination

¹ In this study, British includes single responses of English, Irish, Scottish, Other British, British, not included elsewhere, and the multiples of Irish and Scottish, English and Welsh, and so on. French includes the single responses of French, Acadian, French Canadian, Québécois and the multiples of French and Acadian, French and Québécois, and so on.

Chart 1. Percentage Distribution of Population by Single and Multiple Ethnic Origin Responses, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986



Source:
 Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 1, 1986 Census.

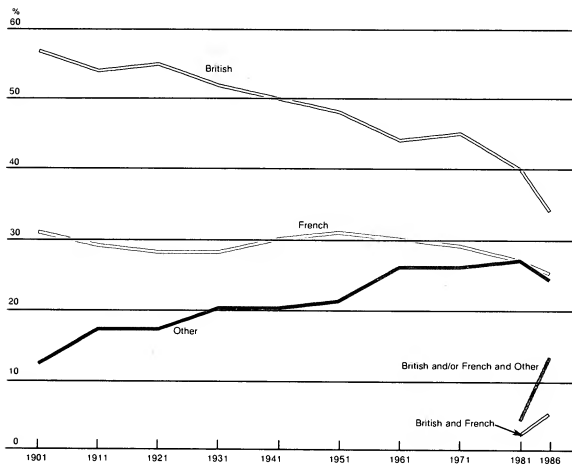
of British and French made up another 5%, while the response combinations of British and/or French and other origins were reported by 13% of the population. A quarter of Canadians reported neither British nor French origins.

Thus, in 1986, just under 38% of Canada's population had an ethnic background that included a mixture of British and French as well as non-British

and non-French origins. This contrasts to 1901 when 57% of Canadians reported having British origins,² 31% reported French origins and 12% gave an origin other than British or French (Chart 2).

The proportion of Canada's population reporting British and French origins has declined as other ethnic and cultural groups have come to comprise a larger proportion of the population. This ethnic diversity was

Chart 2. Percentage Distribution of Ethnic Origins, Canada, 1901-1986



Source:

Statistics Canada, 1901 and 1911 Censuses of Canada; Catalogue No. 92-723, Vol. 1 — Part 3; 1971 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 92-911, 1981 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 93-109, 1986 Census of Canada.

² Between 1901 and 1971, ethnic origins were traced through the father. Multiple responses were not permitted.

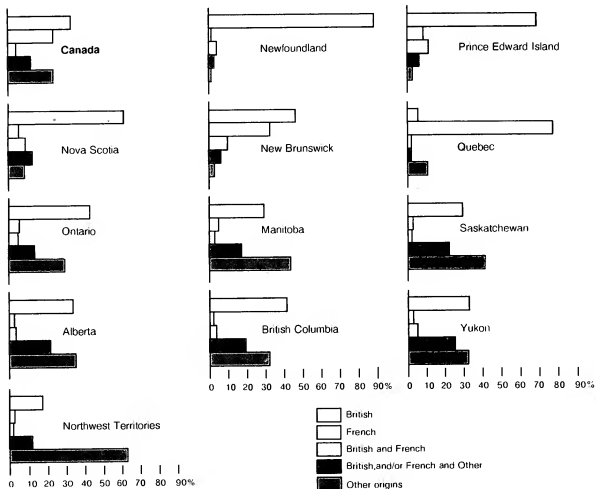
amplified during periods of high non-British and non-French immigration to Canada. During the early years of this century many Eastern and Northern Europeans came to Canada, and since 1966, when immigration laws were altered to include persons from all regions of the world, Canada's immigrants have had very diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The ethnic diversity of Canada varies considerably by region and these regional differences are part and parcel of the history of the settlement of Canada. In 1986, Newfoundland had the population with the highest level of British origins (89%). Quebec was the province with the highest French origins (78%)

and the Northwest Territories, due to its sizeable aboriginal population, was the region with the highest non-British and non-French population (64%).

New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island had the highest British and French multiple response group: 12% in Prince Edward Island, 10% in New Brunswick and 9% for Nova Scotia. As indicated in Chart 3, the Western region of Canada showed high levels of multiple ethnic response that included non-British and non-French groups. Over 20% of the population in Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon reported multiple responses that included combinations of British and/or

Chart 3. Percentage Distribution of Population by Ethnic Origin, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986



Source: Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 1.

French with other origins. Western Canada also had the highest level of multiple ethnic origin responses. For example, in 1986, 45% of the Yukon and 41% of Alberta residents gave more than one ethnic origin response.

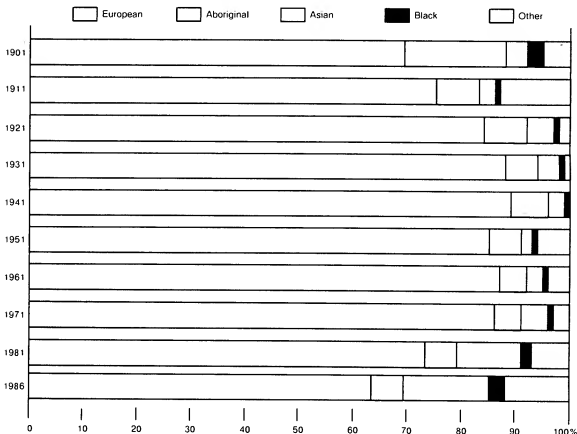
Ethnic Origins Other than British and French and Their Regional Distribution

Persons of European background have traditionally comprised the majority of the ethnic responses of the group having non-British and non-French origins.

As shown in Chart 4, at the turn of the century, aboriginal persons comprised 19% of the non-British non-French group, and by 1986, aboriginals made up 6% of this group.³ Had the aboriginal population not experienced high levels of fertility during the 1951 to 1981 period, their 1986 level would no doubt have been lower.

By 1931, the influx of European immigration during the early decades of this century raised the level of European origins to a high of 88% of the population with non-British and non-French origins. This level remained at 88% in 1941, but was lower in 1951. During the period 1951 to 1961, however,

Chart 4. Percentage Distribution of the Non-British, Non-French Population by Ethnic Origin, Canada, 1901-1986



Source:

Statistics Canada, 1901 and 1911 Censuses of Canada; Catalogue No. 92-723, Vol. 1 — Part 3: 1971 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 92-911, 1981 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 93-109, 1986 Census of Canada.

³ The proportion of aboriginals of the non-British/non-French group would have been higher in 1986, but 45,000 Indians living on Indian reserves and settlements refused to answer the census.

the level of European origins again reached 88%. As a result of increasing levels of non-European immigration in the 1970s and 1980s, the proportion of European origins in the Canadian population having neither British nor French origins dropped to 63% by 1986.

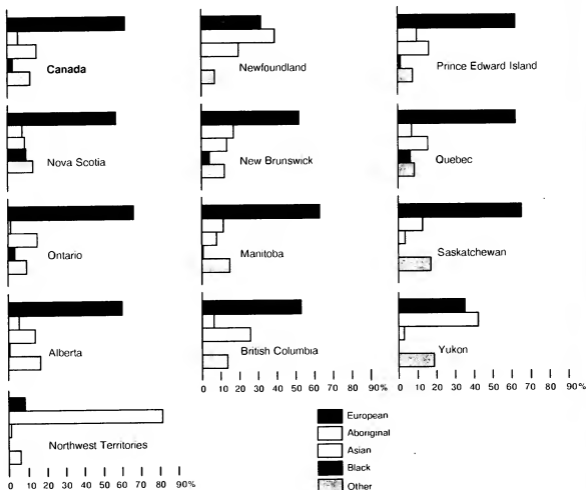
Further, a major increase in Asian immigration since 1971 has raised the level of Asian origins from 5% in 1971 to 16% by 1986. Blacks also increased from 1% of the population having neither British nor French origins in 1971 to 3% by 1986.

As shown in Chart 3, the regions of Canada with high non-British and non-French origins were the Northwest Territories and the Western provinces.

Chart 5 shows the composition of the non-British and non-French group for Canada, the provinces and the territories. For example, in the Northwest Territories, aboriginals made up the largest proportion of the non-British and non-French group, while in the Western provinces, persons of European background predominated.

In 1986, provincial differences show that in British Columbia persons of Asian origin comprised 18% of the non-British and non-French group. This was nearly twice the national average. In Nova Scotia, 11% of the population with non-British and non-French origins had Black ancestry. This was nearly three times higher than the national level.

Chart 5. Percentage Distribution of Non-British, Non-French Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986



Source:
Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 1.

Such regional differences reflect patterns of settlement by these groups during the early history of Canada. Canadians of Asian and Black origins have traditionally been part of Canada's ethnic heritage, though prior to the 1970s the relative size of their communities was small. Persons of Asian background first came to Canada in the late 1850s and 1860s attracted by the Fraser River gold rush and during the 1880s to work on the construction of the western portions of the Canadian Pacific Railway. However, early immigration laws prevented large scale immigration of Asians to Canada. Many of these early arrivals made British Columbia their home, but since 1966, Asian communities have been established in most urban centres.

Blacks have been residents of Canada for nearly 300 years. They first arrived in Nova Scotia, Ontario, and to a lesser degree the Canadian Prairies. Since the late 1960s, Blacks have come to Canada from the Caribbean and Africa. There are now sizeable black communities in Montréal and Toronto as well as Halifax.

Top Ten Provincial Ethnic Groups

The regional differences in the distribution of ethnic groups become very apparent when the top ten single ethnic groups for each province are listed. As shown in Table 1, Prince Edward Island had only one group other than British and French that comprised more than 1% of the province's population, while Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia showed ten such groups.

Most striking are the differences between the provinces. In Quebec, the single response Italian made up less than 3% of the province's population, while in Ontario, the single response Italian comprised 5%.

The single response German and Ukrainian groups made up 9% and 8% respectively of the Manitoba population. In Saskatchewan, 13% of the population gave a single response German and 8% of Alberta's population was single response German. This concentration of Western and Eastern European groups in the Prairies was the result of high levels of immigration of these groups prior to the First World War and during the 1946 to 1960 period.

Table 1 shows the diversity of single ethnic origin response for all provinces and territories. It is interesting to note that the groups which have more recently come to Canada are establishing communities of considerable size in nearly all areas of Canada, though to a lesser degree in Atlantic Canada.

In 1986, each of the following groups — Dutch, Chinese, Portuguese and South Asian comprised between 1.5% and 2% of Ontario's population. Persons of Filipino background made up a sizeable proportion (1.5%) of the Manitoba population. In British Columbia, the Chinese and South Asian groups were present in large numbers and made up 4% and 2.4% respectively of the provincial population. Recent immigration of these groups has been largely responsible for these changes. The second chapter of this report looks more closely at the role of immigration in the maintenance and creation of ethnic diversity in Canada.

Table 1. Top Ten Single Ethnic Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 (20% Sample Data)

	Canada		Newfoundland		Prince Edward Island			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	25,022,005	100.0	Total	564,000	100.0	Total	125,090	100.0
Total single origins	18,035,665	72.1	Total single origins	470,280	83.4	Total single origins	74,105	59.2
Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups		
1. British ¹	6,332,725	25.3	1. British ¹	449,760	79.7	1. British ¹	59,275	47.4
2. French ²	6,093,160	24.4	2. French ²	11,315	2.0	2. French ²	11,130	8.9
3. German	896,720	3.6	3. Aboriginal ⁵	3,825	0.7	3. Dutch (Netherlands)	1,280	1.0
4. Italian	709,590	2.8	4. German	1,155	0.2	4. German	535	0.4
5. Ukrainian	420,210	1.7	5. South Asian ⁴	680	0.1	5. Aboriginal ⁵	410	0.3
6. Aboriginal ⁵	373,265	1.5	6. Chinese	610	0.1	6. Lebanese	230	0.2
7. Chinese	360,320	1.4	7. Dutch (Netherlands)	395	0.1	7. South Asian ⁴	205	0.2
8. Dutch (Netherlands)	351,765	1.4	8. Filipino	285	0.1	8. Scandinavian ³	135	0.1
9. South Asian ⁴	266,800	1.1	9. Portuguese	270	0.0	9. Chinese	130	0.1
10. Jewish	245,855	1.0	10. Scandinavian	265	0.0	10. Polish	100	0.1
Total multiple origins⁶	6,986,345	27.9	Total multiple origins⁶	93,730	16.6	Total multiple origins⁶	50,990	40.8
British only ⁷	2,073,830	8.3	British only ⁷	52,015	9.2	British only ⁷	27,135	21.7
French only ⁸	5,930	0.0	French only ⁸	5	0.0	French only ⁸	10	0.0
British and French	1,139,345	4.6	British and French	24,290	4.3	British and French	15,180	12.1
British and/or French and other ⁹	3,151,245	12.6	British and/or French and other ⁹	16,865	3.0	British and/or French and other ⁹	8,395	6.7
Other multiple origins	616,000	2.5	Other multiple origins	550	0.1	Other multiple origins	270	0.2

Table 1.. Top Ten Single Ethnic Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 (20% Sample Data) — Continued

	Nova Scotia		New Brunswick		Quebec			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	864,150	100.0	Total	701,860	100.0	Total	6,454,490	100.0
Total single origins	535,905	62.0	Total single origins	504,350	71.9	Total single origins	6,010,010	93.1
Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups		
1. British ¹	417,690	48.3	1. British ¹	251,315	35.8	1. French ²	5,015,565	77.7
2. French ²	52,900	6.1	2. French ²	232,570	33.1	2. British ¹	319,550	5.0
3. German	21,205	2.5	3. Aboriginal ⁵	3,885	0.6	3. Italian	163,880	2.5
4. Dutch (Netherlands)	9,320	1.1	4. German	3,760	0.5	4. Jewish	81,190	1.3
5. Black ¹⁰	7,915	0.9	5. Dutch (Netherlands)	2,900	0.4	5. Aboriginal ⁵	49,320	0.8
6. Aboriginal ⁵	5,960	0.7	6. Scandinavian ³	1,215	0.2	6. Greek	47,450	0.7
7. Italian	2,260	0.3	7. Black ¹⁰	935	0.1	7. Black ¹⁰	37,425	0.6
8. Lebanese	2,135	0.2	8. Italian	865	0.1	8. Portuguese	29,700	0.5
9. South Asian ⁴	1,950	0.2	9. Chinese	765	0.1	9. German	26,780	0.4
10. Polish	1,840	0.2	10. South Asian ⁴	735	0.1	10. Chinese	23,205	0.4
Total multiple origins⁶	328,245	38.0	Total multiple origins⁶	197,505	28.1	Total multiple origins⁶	444,480	6.9
British only ⁷	124,500	14.4	British only ⁷	77,995	11.1	British only ⁷	60,715	0.9
French only ⁸	515	0.1	French only ⁸	1,280	0.2	French only ⁸	3,490	0.1
British and French	80,605	9.3	British and French	69,855	10.0	British and French	174,250	2.7
British and/or French and other ⁹	113,265	13.1	British and/or French and other ⁹	46,420	6.6	British and/or French and other ⁹	172,020	2.7
Other multiple origins	9,360	1.1	Other multiple origins	1,955	0.3	Other multiple origins	33,995	0.5

See note, footnotes and source at end of table.

Table 1. Top Ten Single Ethnic Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 (20% Sample Data) — Continued

	Ontario		Manitoba		Saskatchewan			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	9,001,170	100.0	Total	1,049,320	100.0	Total	996,695	100.0
Total single origins	5,952,105	66.1	Total single origins	681,580	65.0	Total single origins	604,750	60.7
Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups		
1. British ¹	2,912,830	32.4	1. British ¹	224,375	21.4	1. British ¹	222,115	22.3
2. French ²	531,580	5.9	2. German	96,160	9.2	2. German	128,850	12.9
3. Italian	461,375	5.1	3. Ukrainian	79,940	7.6	3. Ukrainian	60,550	6.1
4. German	285,155	3.2	4. French ²	55,720	5.3	4. Aboriginal ⁵	55,645	5.6
5. Dutch (Netherlands)	171,150	1.9	5. Aboriginal ⁵	55,410	5.3	5. French ²	33,535	3.4
6. Chinese	156,170	1.7	6. Dutch (Netherlands)	27,875	2.7	6. Scandinavian ³	24,895	2.5
7. Portuguese	139,220	1.5	7. Polish	22,015	2.1	7. Polish	13,325	1.3
8. South Asian ⁴	135,135	1.5	8. Filipino	15,815	1.5	8. Dutch (Netherlands)	13,025	1.3
9. Jewish	127,030	1.4	9. Scandinavian ³	14,835	1.4	9. Hungarian	8,115	0.8
10. Polish	117,575	1.3	10. Jewish	13,870	1.3	10. Chinese	7,210	0.7
Total multiple origins⁶	3,049,060	33.9	Total multiple origins⁶	367,740	35.0	Total multiple origins⁶	391,950	39.3
British only ⁷	1,032,120	11.5	British only ⁷	86,560	8.2	British only ⁷	75,440	7.6
French only ⁸	290	0.0	French only ⁸	40	0.0	French only ⁸	45	0.0
British and French	512,570	5.7	British and French	35,495	3.4	British and French	27,760	2.8
British and/or French and other ⁹	1,290,275	14.3	British and/or French and other ⁹	186,140	17.7	British and/or French and other ⁹	224,400	22.5
Other multiple origins	213,815	2.4	Other multiple origins	59,500	5.7	Other multiple origins	64,305	6.5

Table 1. Top Ten Single Ethnic Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 (20% Sample Data) — Continued

	Alberta		British Columbia		Yukon			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	2,340,265	100.0	Total	2,849,585	100.0	Total	23,360	100.0
Total single origins	1,389,930	59.4	Total single origins	1,759,810	61.8	Total single origins	12,855	55.0
Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups			Top ten single groups		
1. British ¹	592,345	25.3	1. British ¹	871,070	30.6	1. British ¹	5,370	23.0
2. German	182,870	7.8	2. German	148,280	5.2	2. Aboriginal ⁵	3,280	14.0
3. Ukrainian	106,760	4.6	3. Chinese	112,605	4.0	3. German	880	3.8
4. French ²	77,585	3.3	4. South Asian ⁴	69,250	2.4	4. French ²	775	3.3
5. Dutch (Netherlands)	55,920	2.4	5. French ²	68,965	2.4	5. Scandinavian ³	445	1.9
6. Aboriginal ⁵	51,670	2.2	6. Dutch (Netherlands)	62,945	2.2	6. Dutch (Netherlands)	350	1.5
7. Chinese	49,210	2.1	7. Aboriginal ⁵	61,130	2.1	7. Ukrainian	340	1.5
8. Scandinavian ³	46,525	2.0	8. Scandinavian ³	52,560	1.8	8. Chinese	105	0.4
9. South Asian ⁴	30,090	1.3	9. Ukrainian	48,200	1.7	9. Hungarian	95	0.4
10. Polish	28,500	1.2	10. Italian	46,755	1.6	10. Polish	75	0.3
						11. Italian	75	0.3
Total multiple origins⁶	950,335	40.6	Total multiple origins⁶	1,089,780	38.2	Total multiple origins⁶	10,505	45.0
British only ⁷	213,130	9.1	British only ⁷	319,240	11.2	British only ⁷	2,410	10.3
French only ⁸	105	0.0	French only ⁸	130	0.0	French only ⁸	0	0.0
British and French	90,315	3.9	British and French	106,370	3.7	British and French	1,175	5.0
British and/or French and other ⁹	522,415	22.3	British and/or French and other ⁹	558,725	19.6	British and/or French and other ⁹	5,970	25.6
Other multiple origins	124,365	5.3	Other multiple origins	105,310	3.7	Other multiple origins	950	4.1

See note, footnotes and source at end of table.

Table 1. Top Ten Single Ethnic Origins, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986 (20% Sample Data) — Concluded

Northwest Territories		
	No.	%
Total	52,020	100.0
Total single origins	39,980	76.9
Top ten single groups		
1. Aboriginal ⁵	27,175	52.2
2. British ¹	7,015	13.5
3. French ²	1,510	2.9
4. German	1,085	2.1
5. Ukrainian	400	0.8
6. Scandinavian ³	305	0.6
7. Italian	255	0.5
8. Dutch (Netherlands)	240	0.5
9. Chinese	240	0.5
10. Filipino	155	0.3
Total multiple origins⁶	12,040	23.1
British only ⁷	2,570	4.9
French only ⁸	0	0.0
British and French	1,475	2.8
British and/or French and other ⁹	6,370	12.2
Other multiple origins	1,620	3.1

n.i.e. = not included elsewhere.

Note: In this and all subsequent tables and charts, the figures for 1986 exclude the population on incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and Indian settlements. For Canada, there were 136 such reserves and settlements and the total population was estimated to be about 45,000 in 1986.

¹ Includes the single origins of English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, British, n.i.e. and Other British.

² Includes the single origins of French, Acadian, French Canadian and Québécois.

³ Includes the single origins of Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish and Scandinavian, n.i.e.

⁴ Includes the single origins of Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Singhalese, Tamil, Bangladeshi, n.i.e., East Indian, n.i.e., Pakistani, n.i.e. and Sri Lankan, n.i.e.

⁵ Includes the single origins of Inuit, Métis and North American Indian.

⁶ Includes persons who report more than one ethnic origin.

⁷ The British only category includes persons who report more than one of the following origins: English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, British n.i.e., and Other British.

⁸ The French only category includes persons who report more than one of the following origins: French, Acadian, Franco-Manitoban, Franco-Ontarian, French Canadian and Québécois.

⁹ Total British, French and Other includes British and Other, French and Other, and British, French and Other.

¹⁰ Includes single response Black and African Black.

Source:

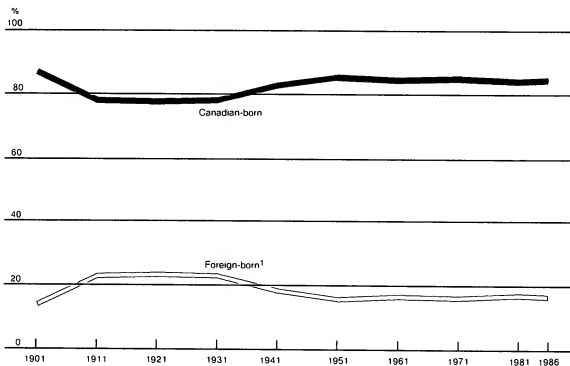
Statistics Canada, The Daily, December 3, 1987.

IMPORTANCE OF IMMIGRATION IN CREATING ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN CANADA

Apart from her aboriginal population, Canada is a nation peopled by immigrants. An immigrant is a permanent resident of Canada who does not have a Canadian citizenship by birth. Most have taken out a Canadian citizenship, but some have not. The children of immigrants, if they were born in Canada, are of course part of the non-immigrant population.

Successive waves of immigration have increased the population of Canada and at times significantly changed its ethnic composition. As indicated in Chart 6, the period of heaviest immigration to Canada was during the years 1911 to 1931. During that period, immigrants comprised about 22% of Canada's population. Since then the proportion of Canada's population comprised of immigrants has declined.

Chart 6. Percentage Distribution of the Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations, Canada, 1901-1986



¹ 1981 and 1986 show immigrant population counts.

Source:

Statistics Canada, 1901 and 1911 Censuses of Canada, Catalogue No. 92-727, Vol. 1 — Part 3: 1971 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 92-913, Table 1, 1981 Census of Canada; Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 58, 1986 Census of Canada.

Immigrants have comprised about 16% of Canada's population since 1951.

Although the proportion of immigrants in the population has remained at 16% since 1951, recent immigrants are much less likely to be born in Europe as compared with those who came to Canada before 1961. The waves of immigration prior to and following the Second World War involved persons of European and British backgrounds. However, this trend changed during the 1960s when Canada's immigration laws were altered to facilitate the immigration of persons from all parts of the world.

Table 2 which shows the place of birth of immigrants by period of immigration reflects the changes that have occurred since the 1950s. Of those immigrants who came to Canada before 1961, 87% were from Europe, 3% from Asia, 7% from the United States, and in total 3% from the regions of the Caribbean, South and Central America, Africa and Oceania (including Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands).

Contrast this with the group of recent immigrants which came to Canada during 1981 to 1986. Of this recent immigrant group, 43% came from Asia, 29% from Europe, 7% from the United States, and in total

21% came from South and Central America, the Caribbean, Africa and Oceania.

Although recent immigrants came to Canada largely from non-European countries, the majority of immigrants living in Canada in 1986 were born in Europe. It is important to note that in 1986, more than 47% of Canada's immigrants had been in Canada for more than 20 years. A further 41% had arrived between 1966 and 1980. Just over 11% were recent immigrants who came to Canada between 1981 and 1986.

Thus, the stock of Canada's immigrant population reflects the long history of selective European and British immigration. In 1986, of the total immigrant population, 63% came from Europe, 18% from Asia, 7% from the United States, and the remaining 14% originated from the Caribbean, Central and South America, Africa and Oceania.

The trend of increased immigration from Asia, the Caribbean and Africa began in the late 1960s. During the 1981 to 1986 period, immigration from Central and South America increased considerably. The changes in the source countries of the recent immigrants has altered the ethnic composition of Canada as these immigrants have made Canada their home and have begun to raise families.

Table 2. Immigrant Population by Place of Birth and Period of Immigration, Canada, 1986

Place of birth	Total immigrant population		Period of Immigration					
			1960 and before		1961 — 1965		1966 — 1970	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total immigrant population	3,908,150	100.0	1,542,705	100.0	304,890	100.0	574,395	100.0
United States	282,025	7.2	112,435	7.3	19,940	6.5	40,415	7.0
Europe	2,435,090	62.3	1,353,175	87.7	232,055	76.1	360,025	62.7
United Kingdom	793,075	20.3	433,770	28.1	60,210	19.7	121,500	21.2
Italy	366,815	9.4	203,475	13.2	66,820	21.9	67,250	11.7
Germany	189,560	4.9	129,415	8.4	16,705	5.5	18,525	3.2
Other European countries	1,085,640	27.8	586,515	38.0	88,320	29.0	152,750	26.6
Asia and India	692,600	17.7	43,735	2.8	23,860	7.8	85,880	15.0
India	130,060	3.3	5,410	0.4	6,025	2.0	22,520	3.9
Other South Asia	28,525	0.7	680	0.0	740	0.2	3,260	0.6
Southeast Asia	215,885	5.5	3,135	0.2	2,650	0.9	14,370	2.5
East Asia	240,680	6.2	27,645	1.8	9,920	3.3	35,065	6.1
West Asia	77,450	2.0	6,865	0.4	4,525	1.5	10,670	1.9
Africa	114,415	2.9	7,220	0.5	10,065	3.3	18,940	3.3
Caribbean and Bermuda	193,440	4.9	10,455	0.7	10,015	3.3	44,245	7.7
South and Central America	147,300	3.8	8,450	0.5	5,915	1.9	16,460	2.9
Other ¹	43,275	1.1	7,225	0.5	3,040	1.0	8,430	1.5

Place of birth	Period of Immigration					
	1971 — 1975		1976 — 1980		1981 — 1986	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total Immigrant population	578,170	100.0	462,485	100.0	445,495	100.0
United States	47,290	8.2	30,765	6.7	31,180	7.0
Europe	221,355	38.3	140,080	30.3	128,395	28.8
United Kingdom	82,255	14.2	56,490	12.2	38,850	8.7
Italy	17,150	3.0	7,655	1.7	4,465	1.0
Germany	7,965	1.4	7,300	1.6	9,645	2.2
Other European countries	113,985	19.7	68,635	14.8	75,435	16.9
Asia and India	161,025	27.9	186,660	40.4	191,435	43.0
India	42,025	7.3	28,275	6.1	25,805	5.8
Other South Asia	8,640	1.5	5,805	1.3	9,400	2.1
Southeast Asia	40,945	7.1	81,750	17.7	73,040	16.4
East Asia	57,890	10.0	50,900	11.0	59,170	13.3
West Asia	11,425	2.0	19,940	4.3	24,015	5.4
Africa	34,920	6.0	23,260	5.0	20,010	4.5
Caribbean and Bermuda	62,430	10.8	40,515	8.8	25,780	5.8
South and Central America	40,385	7.0	33,420	7.2	42,675	9.6
Other ¹	10,775	1.9	7,785	1.7	6,020	1.4

¹ Includes Oceania and North America (excluding the United States).

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data.

Distribution of the Immigrant Population in Canada

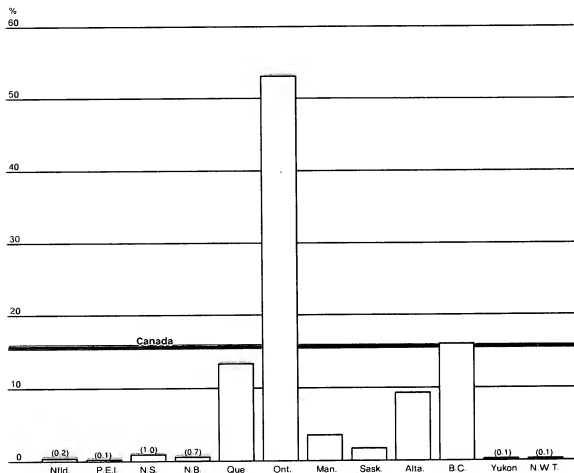
Canada's immigrant population, as shown in Chart 7, lives mainly in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. In 1986, one out of every two immigrants lived in Ontario, a further 16% lived in British Columbia and 13% lived in Quebec.

Immigrants are more likely to live in urban than rural areas. While less than one-third of Canada's population lived in the three largest urban metropolitan areas (Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver) in 1986, over one-half of the immigrant population lived in these urban centres.

The attraction of major urban centres for immigrants was most pronounced in Quebec. Over 87% of Quebec's immigrant population lived in the Montréal metropolitan area in 1986, although only 45% of the provincial population lived in this urban area.

In Ontario, 59% of the immigrant population lived in the Toronto metropolitan area as compared to 38% of the total provincial population. A similar pattern emerged in British Columbia where 62% of the immigrant population of that province resided in the Vancouver metropolitan area, compared to 48% of the total provincial population.

Chart 7. Distribution of Immigrant Population, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986

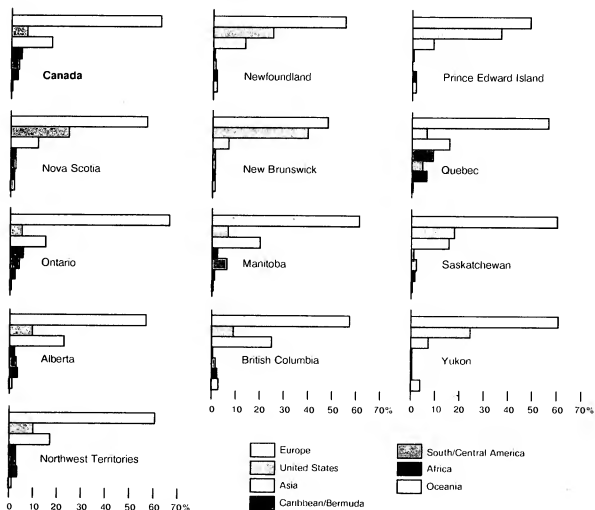


Source:
Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 5B.

As shown in Chart 8, there were differences in the settlement patterns of immigrants in Canada. The Atlantic provinces, while having about 2% of the total immigrant population, showed an immigrant composition that was largely made up of persons born in the

United States or Europe. Immigrants from these two areas accounted for over 80% of the immigrant places of birth for this region. The United States, in particular, was a very important source of immigrants to the Atlantic provinces. Nearly 30% of all

Chart 8. Percentage Distribution of the Immigrant Population by Place of Birth, Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986



Source:
Statistics Canada, Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 58.

immigrants to this region were American-born. This compares to the national total, of which just over 7% of immigrants in 1986 were born in the United States.

Quebec showed lower levels of European, American and Asian-born immigrants than did the Canadian total, but much higher levels of African and Caribbean-born persons. In fact, the percentage of African and Caribbean-born immigrants living in Quebec in 1986 was nearly twice the national average. This reflects the high immigration of Haitians and francophone Africans to Quebec.

Ontario, with over half of Canada's immigrants, not surprisingly had levels close to the national figures. But, there were a few minor differences; for example, the proportion of immigrants from the United States and Asia were somewhat lower than the national levels, while the proportion of immigrants from Europe and the Caribbean were somewhat higher than the national levels.

In Western Canada, there were regional variations in the settlement patterns of immigrants from different countries. For example, Manitoba had high levels of Asian (20%) immigrants. This reflects the presence of the Filipino community in Manitoba. Saskatchewan showed a high incidence of American-born persons: 18% of immigrants had been born in the United States. In Alberta, the proportion of Asian-born (23%) and American-born (10%) were somewhat higher compared with national levels.

In British Columbia, the European, African, Caribbean and Central and South American-born immigrant populations were marginally lower and the American-born slightly higher compared with national levels. The Asian-born comprised one-quarter of the immigrant population, while the Oceania figure was three times the national average. This high Oceania figure reflects the substantial number of Fijian-born

immigrants, most of whom were of South Asian as opposed to Polynesian ethnic origin.

Gender Differences of Immigrants in Canada

Women outnumbered men in Canada in 1986 (50.6 women to 49.4 men) and this trend was evident in the immigrant population as well (51 women to 49 men). Immigrant women outnumbered immigrant men for all periods of immigration except during 1960-1966 when men made up 52% of the population.

There are definite gender differences by place of birth of the immigrant. Since 1966, the number of immigrant women exceeded the number of immigrant men for the following places of birth: United States and the Caribbean and amongst recent immigrants, women born in Asia and South and Central America outnumbered men born in these areas. The ratio of women to men immigrating to Canada from Europe since 1966 was roughly equal, whereas the number of male immigrants from Africa greatly exceeded the number of women who immigrated from Africa.

The gender differential between male and female immigrants can be attributed to aging and differing mortality rates for those immigrants who came to Canada prior to 1946. In the case of recent immigrants, it appears that differences in the relative size of the male and female immigrant populations is because of the greater number of female immigrants compared with male immigrants in Canada. Table 3 shows that for the recent immigrants, especially those from the United States, the Caribbean, Asia and South and Central America, it appears there was a greater propensity for women to be immigrants as compared with men. This may be attributable in part to immigration programs such as the domestic worker program which encourages women to migrate. This may explain the large female immigration from the Caribbean and Asia.

Table 3. Percentage Distribution of Immigrant Population by Place of Birth, Sex and Period of Immigration, Canada, 1986 (20% Sample Data)

Place of birth and sex	Total	Period of immigration					1981-1986
		Before 1960	1961-1965	1966-1970	1971-1975	1976-1980	
Total				%			
Male	48.9	49.0	48.0	50.4	48.9	48.3	48.1
Female	51.1	51.0	52.0	49.6	51.1	51.7	51.9
U.S.A.							
Male	43.0	40.7	42.8	47.8	46.5	42.4	40.2
Female	57.0	59.3	57.2	52.2	53.5	57.6	59.8
Europe							
Male	49.7	49.6	48.7	51.1	49.3	49.8	49.4
Female	50.3	50.4	51.3	48.9	50.7	50.2	50.6
Asia							
Male	49.8	54.0	47.7	51.3	50.1	49.3	48.5
Female	50.2	46.0	52.3	48.7	49.9	50.7	51.5
Africa							
Male	52.9	53.3	53.3	53.6	52.5	51.7	54.0
Female	47.1	46.7	46.7	46.4	47.5	48.3	46.0
Caribbean							
Male	44.1	44.8	41.2	44.7	44.4	43.2	44.2
Female	55.9	55.2	58.8	55.3	55.6	56.8	55.8
South and Central America							
Male	48.2	47.5	44.6	50.0	49.3	46.1	48.7
Female	51.8	52.5	55.4	50.0	50.7	53.9	51.3
Oceania							
Male	46.7	46.0	44.0	48.2	47.3	46.8	45.1
Female	53.3	54.0	56.0	51.8	52.7	53.2	54.9

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

Immigration and Ethnic Diversity in Canada

Immigration has had a major impact on the creation of ethnic diversity in Canada. Moreover, as immigrants have come to settle in the various regions of Canada, differing patterns of ethnic distribution across Canada have occurred. Table 4 compares the top ten single response ethnic groups for the immigrant and non-immigrant populations. This table shows the influence of recent immigration on the ethnic profile of Canada.

For example, among the non-immigrant population, the top single response ethnic groups after British and

French were German, Aboriginals and Ukrainian. Among the immigrant population, the top three single response ethnic groups were Italian, Chinese and German.

In light of the theme of Canada the melting pot, or Canada the mosaic, immigration since the 1960s has created a culturally heterogeneous society. No longer are the British and French the numerically dominant groups. As well, the incidence of Canadians reporting a mixed ethnic background has become increasingly common. In 1986, 28% of Canadians gave more than one ethnic group.

Table 4. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Top Ethnic Groups, Canada, 1986

Non-immigrant		Immigrant	
Total	21,113,855	Total	3,908,150
Total British¹	7,477,445	Total British¹	929,120
Total French²	6,008,630	Total French²	90,460
Single response		Single response	
German	645,545	Italian	370,060
Aboriginal ³	370,540	Chinese	266,990
Ukrainian	359,555	German	251,170
Italian	339,530	South Asian ⁴	198,250
Dutch (Netherlands)	208,825	Portuguese	144,390
Jewish	163,175	Dutch (Netherlands)	142,940
Polish	115,030	Black ⁵	111,830
Chinese	93,330	Polish	107,235
South Asian ⁴	68,535	Jewish	82,625
Black ⁵	63,140	Filipino	73,100

¹ Includes the single origins of English, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, British, n.l.e., and Other British, and the multiple response group British Only.

² Includes the single origins of French, Acadian, French Canadian and Québécois, and the multiple response group French Only.

³ Includes the single origins of North American Indian, Inuit and Métis.

⁴ Includes the single origins of Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Singhalese, Tamil, Bangladeshi, n.l.e., East Indian, n.l.e., Pakistani, n.l.e., and Sri Lankan, n.l.e.

⁵ Includes single response Black and African Black.

Source:

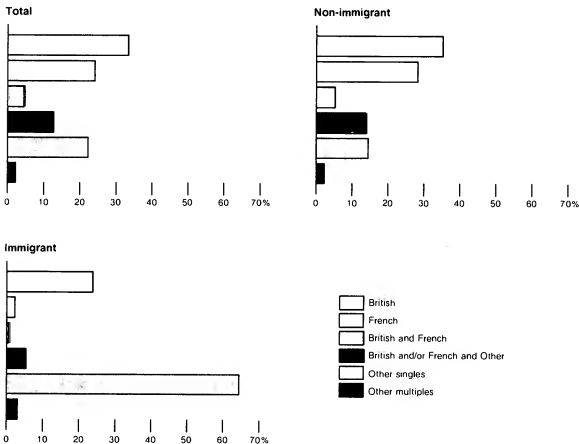
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

DIFFERING ETHNIC ORIGIN RESPONSE PATTERNS OF IMMIGRANT AND NON-IMMIGRANT POPULATIONS

While just 16% of Canadians in 1986 were immigrants, Chart 9 shows that there were some remarkable differences in the ethnic composition of the immigrant and non-immigrant populations. As further shown in Table 5,

over 98% of the French population in Canada, 97% of the British and French group and 93% of the British and/or French and "other ethnic" response group were non-immigrants. In 1986, the British group was 89% non-immigrant.

Chart 9. Percentage Distribution of Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Ethnic Origin, Canada, 1986



Source:
Statistics Canada, 1986 Census of Canada, unpublished data.

The non-British and non-French single response ethnic group was nearly 45% immigrant and the multiple response "other origin" category was 20% immigrant. Thus, immigration has a major influence on the ethnic diversity of the Canadian population.

This trend is most noticeable in the provinces that have sizeable immigrant populations. Ontario, which has over half the country's immigrants, showed a non-British and non-French single ethnic response that was 55% immigrant, and the

non-British, non-French ethnic origin multiple response was 30% immigrant. Quebec also reflected this pattern: 56% of the non-British, non-French single other ethnic response, though 50% of the multiple other ethnic responses were given by immigrants.

This trend did not hold in the Northwest Territories where just 5% of the non-British, non-French single ethnic origin was immigrant. This was because of the substantial population of Canadian-born Inuit and North American Indians living there.

Table 5. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Ethnic Origin, Canada, 1986 (20% Sample Data)

		Total	Non-immigrant	Immigrant
Canada	No.	25,022,005	21,113,860	3,908,150
	%	100.0	84.4	15.6
British	No.	8,406,555	7,477,435	929,115
	%	100.0	88.9	11.1
French	No.	6,099,095	6,008,635	90,460
	%	100.0	98.5	1.5
British and French	No.	1,139,345	1,110,930	28,410
	%	100.0	97.5	2.5
British and/or French and Other	No.	3,151,245	2,945,665	205,575
	%	100.0	93.5	6.5
Other single origins	No.	5,609,780	3,079,835	2,529,940
	%	100.0	54.9	45.1
Other multiple origins	No.	615,995	491,355	124,645
	%	100.0	79.8	20.2

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

British and French Groups

The British ethnic group has an older demographic profile than do other ethnic groups in Canada. This factor holds true for both the immigrant and non-immigrant sectors of the British group. Among the non-immigrant British group, persons under age 20 made up 28% of the population, compared with one-third of Canada's non-immigrant population. At the other end of the age scale, among the non-immigrant British group, 12% were aged 65 and over, compared with 9% of the Canadian-born population.

Among the British immigrant population, one-third were aged less than 40, compared with 42% of the total immigrant population. One-quarter of the British immigrant population were aged 65 and over compared with 17% for all immigrants.

British immigrants were part of the earlier waves of immigration to Canada. For example, one-half of those immigrants born in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland came to Canada before 1961. A further 25% came to Canada between 1961 and 1970. Less than 20% arrived during the period 1971 to 1980, and about 5% came between 1981 and 1986.

Among the French ethnic group born in Canada, the impact of a declining birth rate was evident from 1986 Census data. Just slightly more than 27% of the Canadian-born French ethnic group was under age 20, as compared with 33% of Canada's non-immigrant population in 1986.

This decline of French ethnic origin in the young age groups is partially compensated by a sizeable population of French immigrants who are under 20 years. For example, 13% of immigrants with French ethnic origin were under age 20 compared with 9% of the immigrant population in total.

This increase of French immigrant youth can be partially attributed to the tendency of some ethnic groups to report French instead of Haitian, Arab or African Black. In 1986, nearly 10% of persons born in Haiti, 55% of persons born in Algeria and over one-quarter of persons born in Senegal gave French as their ethnic origin as did 58% of persons born in Guadeloupe.

Non-British, Non-French Groups

The age profile of the immigrant population who had a single ethnic origin other than British or French did not differ greatly from the age profile of the total immigrant population in Canada. On the other hand, the Canadian-born population with an ethnic origin other than British or French, was youthful — 37% were under age 20. This compares with the national figures, where in 1986, 33% of non-immigrants were younger than age 20.

The population which gave a multiple response involving origins other than British and French tended to be under age 20 and Canadian-born. For example, 41% of the Canadian-born population having a multiple origin other than British or French were under 20 years of age. This proportion is much higher than the 33% of the non-immigrant population that was under age 20 in 1986.

Age and Ethnic Origin

In 1986, the population under age 20 showed higher levels of multiple ethnic origin response than did persons of higher age groups. As well, Table 6 shows that the younger age groups had a higher proportion of its population with origins other than British or French.

For example, 44% of the population under age 5 in 1986 had an ethnic background that included origins other than British or French. Contrast this with the age group 20 to 24 years which had 39% of its population with an ethnic background that included origins other than British and French. The population 25 years and over showed an even lower percentage. In this age group, only 36% had an ethnic background that included origins other than British or French.

Canada's young people are also more likely to have a mixed ethnic background, in particular a multiple ethnic response involving the British and Other, French and Other and British, French and Other combinations. As well, 20% of those aged 5 and under showed a single ethnic origin response other than British or French compared with 27% of those aged 25 and over.

Table 6. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Ethnic Origin, Showing Age Groups, Canada, 1986 (20% Sample Data)

Age group		Canada	British	French	British and French	British and/or French and Other	Other single origin	Other multiple origin
Total	No.	25,022,010	8,406,555	6,099,095	1,139,340	3,151,245	5,609,775	616,000
	%	100.0	33.6	24.4	4.6	12.6	22.4	2.5
Under 20 years	No.	7,305,150	2,140,575	1,660,785	429,760	1,492,425	1,362,975	218,630
	%	100.0	29.3	22.7	5.9	20.4	18.7	3.0
20-39 years	No.	8,764,875	2,815,450	2,218,620	436,720	1,127,840	1,912,950	253,295
	%	100.0	32.1	25.3	5.0	12.9	21.8	2.9
40-64 years	No.	5,456,815	2,306,225	1,658,335	214,315	434,645	1,727,325	115,970
	%	100.0	35.7	25.7	3.3	6.7	26.8	1.8
65 years and over	No.	2,495,160	1,144,310	561,350	58,545	96,330	606,525	28,100
	%	100.0	45.9	22.5	2.3	3.9	24.3	1.1
Non-immigrant Total	No.	21,113,860	7,477,435	6,008,630	1,110,930	2,945,670	3,079,835	491,355
	%	100.0	35.4	28.5	5.3	14.0	14.6	2.3
Under 20 years	No.	6,940,940	2,075,930	1,649,375	425,210	1,456,260	1,131,755	202,420
	%	100.0	29.9	23.8	6.1	21.0	16.3	2.9
20-39 years	No.	7,480,805	2,579,910	2,190,765	426,505	1,039,235	1,042,420	201,965
	%	100.0	34.5	29.3	5.7	13.9	13.9	2.7
40-64 years	No.	4,860,825	1,922,650	1,621,915	204,780	371,080	667,215	73,185
	%	100.0	39.6	33.4	4.2	7.6	13.7	1.5
65 years and over	No.	1,831,290	898,950	546,580	54,435	79,090	238,450	13,785
	%	100.0	49.1	29.8	3.0	4.3	13.0	0.8
Immigrant Total	No.	3,908,150	929,115	90,460	28,415	205,575	2,529,940	124,645
	%	100.0	23.8	2.3	0.7	5.3	64.7	3.2
Under 20 years	No.	364,210	64,645	11,415	4,550	36,170	231,220	16,210
	%	100.0	17.7	3.1	1.2	9.9	63.5	4.5
20-39 years	No.	1,284,075	235,540	27,855	10,215	88,605	870,530	51,330
	%	100.0	18.3	2.2	0.8	6.9	67.8	4.0
40-64 years	No.	1,595,990	383,570	36,415	9,535	63,565	1,060,115	42,785
	%	100.0	24.0	2.3	0.6	4.0	66.4	2.7
65 years and over	No.	663,875	245,355	14,770	4,115	17,235	368,075	14,320
	%	100.0	37.0	2.2	0.6	2.6	55.4	2.2

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

The trend of mixed ethnic backgrounds is most noticeable for those under age 20. One consequence of this trend may be a decline over time in the single ethnic origin counts and an increase in the size of the population having a mixed ethnic background. On the increase will be the multiple response combinations involving British and/or French.

Changing Ethnic Profile of Canadians

As a nation, Canada contains over 100 distinct ethnic and cultural communities. Canada increasingly has a population with mixed ethnic backgrounds and heritages. In 1986, 28% of the population had a mixed ethnic background. Over 30% of those born in Canada were of mixed ethnic background compared with just 10% of immigrants.

In 1986, those under 20 years of age, and in particular the Canadian-born, showed substantially higher levels of ethnic heterogeneity compared with either the older Canadian-born or the immigrant populations. This mixing of ethnic origins in the

younger age groups no doubt reflects a higher degree of heterogeneous marriages as well as an increased acceptance of the determinants of the roots of mixed cultural backgrounds.

It could be argued that high levels of multiple ethnic responses are evidence of a dilution of the ethnic or cultural core groups. On the other hand, the argument could be made that it represents a maintenance of ethnic and cultural roots on the part of persons who have a varied ethnic background.

There may also be a change in the way that Canadians perceive their ethnic heritage. Among Canada's youth, a plurality of ethnic backgrounds is becoming more common. While the single response ethnic populations continue to be numerically important elements in Canada's ethnic mosaic, there are also increasing numbers of Canadians who bridge several distinct ethnic communities.

The next chapter of the report highlights some of the major differences among the various ethnic groups in single and multiple responses.



ETHNIC CORE AND PERIPHERY

Groups Having High Multiple Responses — Northern and Western Europeans

Ethnic groups differ greatly in the proportion having single and multiple responses. For example, over 75% of respondents with an ethnic background of Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and Swedish gave more than one ethnic origin. Groups with more recent immigrant populations tended to have much lower levels of mixed ethnic backgrounds. For example, less than 13% of the Chinese, Filipino, and Korean groups were of mixed ethnic backgrounds.

Even within ethnic groups showing higher levels of mixed ethnic responses, the trend for immigrants to give a single response and for the Canadian-born to give a multiple response is evident. As shown in Table 7, the response patterns of immigrant and non-immigrant Northern and Western European populations differed. In 1986, three out of four of immigrant Northern Europeans gave a single response ethnic origin. Among the non-immigrant Northern European population, three out of four gave a multiple response. A similar pattern of response was evident among Western European respondents: three out of four Western European ethnic origin immigrants gave a single ethnic origin response and 68% of the non-immigrant Western European population gave a multiple response.

As well, older respondents are more likely than younger respondents to give a single response ethnic origin. Among the immigrant Northern and Western European populations, single ethnic origin responses tended to be given by those respondents aged 40 and over. For example, 68% of the Northern European population was over 40 years. This age group accounted for over 77% of the single ethnic origin Northern European. A similar pattern was present for the Western European group in which 69% of the population was aged 40 and over. In 1986, three-quarters of the single ethnic origin responses came from this age group.

Analysis of specific ethnic groups within these larger ethnic categories show similar patterns of response. Within the Western European group, the Dutch and German groups both had small single response counts. In 1986, 40% of all Dutch responses and 36% of all German ethnic origin responses were single.

Immigrants comprised 14% of the German ethnic group and 20% of the Dutch. Those who gave a single Dutch or German response, 41% and 28% respectively, were immigrants. In 1986, the immigrant population having Dutch and German origins was predominantly middle-aged, with 56% of the immigrant Dutch single response and 56% of the immigrant German single response provided by persons aged 40 to 64. This compares with the total immigrant population where 41% were aged 40 to 64 in 1986.

The population group having a multiple Dutch or multiple German ethnic background tended to be born in Canada. About 94% of the German ethnic multiple response and 95% of the Dutch multiple ethnic response was given by non-immigrants. Those of mixed Dutch or German heritage also tended to be under age 40. In the Dutch group, 48% of multiple responses were given by persons under 20 years of age and a further 33% was provided by those aged 20 to 39. For the German ethnic group, 45% of the multiple ethnic responses were reported by persons under age 20 and 36% were given by those aged 20 to 39.

The Northern European groups, such as the Finnish and the Scandinavians, followed a similar pattern. In 1986, 44% of all Finnish ethnic origin responses and 28% of all Scandinavian responses were single. Single response Finnish and Scandinavian ethnic origin responses tended to be given by immigrants who were in the middle to older age groups.

Table 7. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Selected Ethnic Groups, Showing Age Groups, Canada, 1986

Age group	Western Europe ¹	%	German	%	Dutch	%	Northern Europe ²	%	Finnish	%	Scandinavian ³	%
Total	3,335,080	100.0	2,467,055	100.0	881,935	100.0	690,920	100.0	91,340	100.0	609,185	100.0
Under 20 years	1,153,795	34.6	865,655	35.1	329,645	37.4	246,120	35.6	31,460	34.4	219,095	36.0
20-39 years	1,168,145	35.0	862,645	35.0	305,340	34.6	234,775	34.0	29,220	32.0	208,705	34.3
40-64 years	776,930	23.0	560,610	22.7	188,030	21.3	152,475	22.1	21,610	23.7	132,565	21.8
65 years and over	246,215	7.4	178,140	7.2	58,915	6.7	57,550	8.3	9,045	9.9	48,815	8.0
Non-immigrant												
Total	2,779,495	100.0	2,116,375	100.0	708,250	100.0	602,275	100.0	70,705	100.0	540,145	100.0
Under 20 years	1,120,935	40.3	842,455	39.8	320,325	45.2	240,290	39.9	30,570	43.2	214,080	39.6
20-39 years	1,028,645	37.0	775,805	36.7	258,905	36.6	212,100	35.2	23,935	33.9	190,960	35.4
40-64 years	484,985	17.4	386,855	18.3	97,330	13.7	118,115	19.6	12,940	18.3	106,470	19.7
65 years and over	144,920	5.2	111,265	5.3	31,695	4.5	31,775	5.3	3,275	4.6	28,630	5.3
Immigrant												
Total	555,590	100.0	350,680	100.0	173,680	100.0	88,645	100.0	20,630	100.0	69,040	100.0
Under 20 years	32,855	5.9	23,200	6.6	9,320	5.4	5,830	6.6	895	4.3	5,015	7.3
20-39 years	139,495	25.1	86,845	24.8	46,435	26.7	22,675	25.6	5,290	25.6	17,745	25.7
40-64 years	281,940	50.7	173,750	49.5	90,700	52.2	34,360	38.8	8,675	42.1	26,090	37.8
65 years and over	101,295	18.2	66,885	19.1	27,220	15.7	25,775	29.1	5,775	28.0	20,185	29.2

¹ Western Europe includes the following ethnic groups: Austrian, Belgian, Dutch (Netherlands), German, Luxembourg and Swiss.

² Northern Europe includes the following ethnic groups: Finnish and Scandinavian.

³ Scandinavian includes the following ethnic groups: Danish, Icelandic, Norwegian, Swedish and Scandinavian, n.l.e.

Source:

Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

The Finnish and Scandinavian multiple responses were most likely to be given by non-immigrants. In 1986, those under age 20 provided 54% of the Finnish and 47% of the Scandinavian multiple responses.

Two trends are very apparent from the response patterns of the Western and Northern European groups. First, immigrants tend to give a single ethnic origin response, while the Canadian-born are more likely to provide a multiple ethnic origin response. In particular, it is the Canadian-born population under the age of 20 that appears most likely to give a multiple ethnic origin response. For example, among the Canadian-born, 83% of Germans and 79% of Dutch under age 20 were of mixed ethnic backgrounds.

The trend for youth to be of mixed ethnic backgrounds is likely to increase as long as immigration of the Dutch and German groups remains low. It is interesting to note that in 1986, eight out of 10 persons born in the Netherlands had been in Canada longer than 25 years. Just 3% of immigrants from the Netherlands had come to Canada between 1981 and 1986.

A similar trend was evident in the immigration pattern from West and East Germany. In 1986, over 80% of the East German and 66% of the West German immigrant populations had been in Canada longer than 25 years. Recent immigration since 1981 from these countries had contributed less than 5% to Canada's ethnic German immigrant populations.

Thus, as the immigrant Western and Northern European populations age and should immigration from the source countries for these ethnic groups continue at current levels, the single response or core ethnic group would decline in number, while the population having a mixed ethnic background would increase.

Characteristics of the Southern European Ethnic Group

In 1986, persons of Southern European background, compared with the Northern and Western European groups, had higher levels of single ethnic origin response. The Southern European level of single ethnic origin response (73%) was very close to the national level of single response (72%). The pattern of differential single and multiple response shown by the immigrant and non-immigrant Northern and Western European populations was evident in the pattern of response for the Southern Europeans. In 1986, 85% of the multiple response Southern

European was given by non-immigrants, although non-immigrants made up slightly more than half of the Southern European ethnic group.

As was the case with the Northern and Western European groups, the Southern European non-immigrants who gave a multiple response tended to be youth. Table 8 shows, for example, that persons under age 20 made up one-third of the entire Southern European population; yet this age group contributed one-quarter of all the single Southern European responses and about one half of the multiple Southern European responses.

Individual ethnic groups contained within the Southern European grouping also exhibited this trend. Among the non-immigrant Italian population under age 20, about one-half gave a multiple response.

Groups Having Large Immigrant Populations — Chinese and Filipino

In 1986, 70% of persons with a Chinese ethnic background were immigrants. The level of single ethnic origin response was also quite high, as 87% of the Chinese responses were single response Chinese. Non-immigrant ethnic Chinese had a higher level of multiple response than did the immigrant Chinese population. For example, 25% of the non-immigrant Chinese population gave a multiple response as opposed to 8% of Chinese immigrants.

Table 9 shows that in 1986 nearly 71% of the non-immigrant Chinese population were under age 20. Among the Canadian-born ethnic Chinese, there was a strong tendency for those under age 20 to give a multiple ethnic origin response. Nearly three-quarters of the multiple Chinese responses given by non-immigrants came from this age group.

The Filipino group, in 1986, had a pattern of single and multiple ethnic origin response similar to that of the Chinese. About three-quarters of Filipinos were immigrants. As well, 87% of all Filipino responses were single and 13% were multiple. It is also interesting to note that of the non-immigrant ethnic Filipino population, 92% were under age 15.

Of the non-immigrant population under age 20, 72% gave a single ethnic origin response compared with 90% of the immigrant population of that age group. Overall, the ethnic Filipino non-immigrant population were less likely to report a single ethnic origin response compared with the immigrant Filipino population. For example, 72% of all non-immigrants gave a single response as compared to 92% of all immigrant Filipinos.

Table 8. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Southern European and Italian Ethnic Origins, Showing Age Groups, Canada, 1986

Age group	Southern European	%	Italian	%
Total	1,705,170	100.0	1,006,915	100.0
Under 20 years	573,090	33.6	328,650	32.6
20-39 years	575,080	33.7	344,165	34.2
40-64 years	458,595	26.9	267,980	26.6
65 years and over	98,405	5.8	66,120	6.6
Non-immigrant				
Total	906,805	100.0	610,140	100.0
Under 20 years	521,205	57.5	317,745	52.1
20-39 years	294,170	32.4	221,205	36.3
40-64 years	73,495	8.1	56,000	9.2
65 years and over	17,940	2.0	15,195	2.5
Immigrant				
Total	798,365	100.0	396,775	100.0
Under 20 years	51,885	6.5	10,910	2.7
20-39 years	280,915	35.2	122,960	31.0
40-64 years	385,100	48.2	211,980	53.4
65 years and over	80,460	10.1	50,925	12.8

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

Table 9. Immigrant and Non-immigrant Populations by Chinese and Filipino Ethnic Origins, Showing Age Groups, Canada, 1986

Age group	Chinese	%	Filipino	%
Total	414,045	100.0	107,055	100.0
Under 20 years	132,150	31.9	39,155	36.6
20-39 years	158,795	38.4	37,750	35.3
40-64 years	92,680	22.4	24,380	22.8
65 years and over	30,420	7.3	5,770	5.4
Non-immigrant				
Total	123,250	100.0	27,990	100.0
Under 20 years	87,375	70.9	27,260	97.4
20-39 years	28,090	22.8	565	2.0
40-64 years	5,930	4.8	130	0.5
65 years and over	1,850	1.5	35	0.1
Immigrant				
Total	290,790	100.0	79,070	100.0
Under 20 years	44,770	15.4	11,895	15.0
20-39 years	130,705	44.9	37,185	47.0
40-64 years	86,750	29.8	24,255	30.7
65 years and over	28,565	9.8	5,735	7.3

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

Influence of Mother Tongue on Ethnic Origin Response Patterns

As has been discussed, in 1986 non-immigrant populations tended to report lower levels of single ethnic origin response compared with immigrants. As well, those under age 20 and born in Canada were less likely to report a single ethnic origin response compared with older Canadian-born persons.

Factors such as age and place of birth appear to be associated with the reporting of single ethnic origins. There may also be another influence on the reporting of single ethnic origins: the retention of a mother tongue other than English or French.

In 1986, persons who had a mother tongue other than English or French were more likely to report a single ethnic origin than a multiple one. As Table 10 indicates for the German ethnic group, persons with a German mother tongue overwhelmingly gave a single ethnic origin response of German. This trend held true for persons under age 20 of which 37,785 had a German mother tongue. Of this group, 88%

responded with the single ethnic origin response of German.

The Italian group shows a very interesting trend. In 1986, 36% were immigrants and the single ethnic origin response rate was about 70%. As shown in Table 11, of the Italian ethnic origin population under age 20, 51% of respondents gave a single ethnic origin response while 49% provided a multiple ethnic origin response. Persons with English, French, English and French, or a mother tongue other than Italian tended to give a multiple Italian ethnic origin response. Persons with an Italian mother tongue were more likely to have a single ethnic origin response of Italian.

The association between ethnic origin and language for the Chinese ethnic group is also apparent. Table 12 shows that those under age 20 in 1986 were more likely to have a mother tongue other than Chinese. This was also the age group with the highest level of multiple ethnic origin response.

Table 10. German Ethnic Origin by Age and Mother Tongue, Canada, 1986

	All age groups						0-19 years					
	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%
Total German ethnic origin	2,467,055	100.0	896,715	100.0	1,570,340	100.0	865,655	100.0	152,735	100.0	712,920	100.0
Mother tongue												
English	1,967,320	79.7	494,395	55.1	1,472,925	93.8	803,375	92.8	112,935	73.9	690,445	96.8
French	31,150	1.3	8,570	1.0	22,580	1.4	9,080	1.0	1,275	0.8	7,805	1.1
German	384,520	15.6	348,520	38.9	36,005	2.3	37,785	4.4	33,380	21.9	4,405	0.6
Other single responses	15,875	0.6	3,185	0.4	12,690	0.8	2,055	0.2	210	0.1	1,840	0.3
English and French	8,515	0.3	790	0.1	7,725	0.5	4,225	0.5	275	0.2	3,945	0.6
Other multiple responses including German	59,675	2.4	41,260	4.6	18,415	1.2	9,135	1.1	4,660	3.1	4,470	0.6

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

Table 11. Italian Ethnic Origin by Age and Mother Tongue, Canada, 1986

	All age groups						0-19 years					
	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%
Total Italian ethnic origin	1,006,915	100.0	709,590	100.0	297,330	100.0	328,650	100.0	166,300	100.0	162,355	100.0
Mother tongue												
English	417,660	41.5	172,055	24.2	245,610	82.6	216,755	66.0	75,260	45.3	141,490	87.1
French	33,900	3.4	14,665	2.1	19,235	6.5	11,615	3.5	3,100	1.9	8,515	5.2
Italian	462,175	45.9	450,970	63.6	11,205	3.8	67,665	20.6	64,185	38.6	3,480	2.1
Other single responses	8,440	0.8	2,400	0.3	6,040	2.0	1,770	0.5	315	0.2	1,460	0.9
English and French	5,235	0.5	1,730	0.2	3,500	1.2	2,435	0.7	580	0.3	1,855	1.1
Other multiple responses including Italian	79,500	7.9	67,765	9.5	11,740	3.9	28,410	8.6	22,860	13.7	5,550	3.4

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

Table 12. Chinese Ethnic Origin by Age and Mother Tongue, Canada, 1986

	All age groups						0-19 years					
	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%	Total	%	Single response	%	Multiple response	%
Total Chinese ethnic origin	414,040	100.0	360,320	100.0	53,720	100.0	132,150	100.0	104,325	100.0	27,825	100.0
Mother tongue												
English	95,100	23.0	61,465	17.1	33,640	62.6	50,645	38.3	30,265	29.0	20,375	73.2
French	2,165	0.5	1,365	0.4	795	1.5	1,005	0.8	575	0.6	430	1.5
Chinese	265,805	64.2	257,725	71.5	8,085	15.1	61,825	46.8	59,180	56.7	2,645	9.5
Other single responses	12,280	3.0	7,335	2.0	4,945	9.2	3,465	2.6	1,995	1.9	1,475	5.3
English and French	1,125	0.3	655	0.2	475	0.9	680	0.5	365	0.3	315	1.1
Other multiple responses including Chinese	37,560	9.1	31,770	8.8	5,790	10.8	14,530	11.0	11,945	11.4	2,585	9.3

Source:
Statistics Canada, unpublished data, 1986 Census.

CONCLUSION

As a nation, Canada contains over 100 different ethnic and cultural communities. The foundation of Canada's policy of multiculturalism has been built on this basis. Canada's ethnic communities have had a long history in Canada and many of these groups have strong ethnic "core" populations.

Groups with high non-immigrant populations gave considerably higher levels of multiple ethnic origin responses than did groups with substantial immigrant populations. Where groups did not have infusions of recent immigrants, there was a trend toward the single responses being given by older respondents, whereas younger respondents were more likely to have mixed ethnic backgrounds. For example, the Western and Northern Europeans had relatively smaller "core" single response ethnic origin populations compared with the size of the population group that gave multiple responses. This culturally mixed group was also less likely to have a mother tongue language other than English or French.

Does this trend to multiple response imply a loss of cultural identity — a melting pot — or does it signify a cultural recognition of ethnic roots? Possibly, as the recognition of the diversity of Canadians' ethnic heritages becomes more widespread, the levels of multiple ethnic origin response will increase. This may not signify a loss of cultural heritage but the recognition of various ethnic and cultural origins by the respondent.

Furthermore, given the high level of multiple ethnic response involving those of British and French background with origins other than British and French, perhaps it is not the non-British and non-French groups which are "melting". Rather, the cultural additions to the British and French groups may well create the greatest impact over time.

APPENDIX

Composition of Major Ethnic Categories, for Canada, 1986 Census

	<u>Single origins</u>	<u>Multiple origins</u>
British origins	6,332,725	6,038,760*
English	4,742,040	4,561,910
Irish	699,685	2,922,605
Scottish	865,450	3,052,605
Welsh	23,395	126,890
British, n.i.e.	800	1,880
Other British	1,360	3,920
French origins	6,093,160	2,030,200*
French	6,087,310	2,027,945
Acadian	3,040	5,325
French Canadian	1,025	1,520
Québécois	1,790	2,345
Northern European origins	212,280	478,645*
Danish	39,950	79,105
Finnish	40,565	50,770
Icelandic	14,470	39,285
Norwegian	61,580	182,100
Swedish	43,340	160,535
Scandinavian, n.i.e.	12,375	19,445
Western European origins	1,321,465	2,013,615*
Austrian	24,900	49,740
Belgian	28,395	46,395
Dutch (Netherlands)	351,760	530,170
German	896,715	1,570,340
Luxembourg	555	1,320
Swiss	19,135	41,145

* See explanation at end of Appendix.

Composition of Major Ethnic Categories, for Canada, 1986 Census
— Continued

	<u>Single origins</u>	<u>Multiple origins</u>
Southern European origins	1,242,170	463,000*
Albanian	875	560
Bulgar	2,465	3,460
Croatian	35,120	9,055
Cypriot	315	675
Greek	143,780	33,530
Italian	709,590	297,325
Macedonian	11,355	5,920
Maltese	15,345	8,925
Portuguese	199,595	37,590
Serbian	9,510	3,460
Slovenian	5,895	2,235
Spanish	57,125	56,045
Yugoslav, n.i.e.	51,200	33,375
Eastern European origins	888,195	998,395*
Byelorussian	970	1,060
Czech	20,380	19,255
Czechoslovakian	18,835	24,605
Estonian	13,200	7,330
Hungarian (Magyar)	97,845	91,145
Latvian	12,620	7,380
Lithuanian	14,725	12,225
Polish	222,260	389,845
Romanian	18,745	32,590
Russian	32,080	71,585
Slovak	16,320	11,385
Ukrainian	420,210	541,100
Arab origins	72,315	31,230*
Egyptian	11,580	4,135
Lebanese	29,345	15,685
Palestinian	1,070	525
Syrian	3,045	4,135
Arab, n.i.e.	27,275	10,230
West Asian origins	41,305	10,285*
Armenian	22,525	4,865
Iranian	13,325	2,420
Israeli	390	735
Turk	5,065	2,495

* See explanation at end of Appendix.

Composition of Major Ethnic Categories, for Canada, 1986 Census
— Continued

	<u>Single origins</u>	<u>Multiple origins</u>
South Asian origins	266,800	47,235*
Bengali	390	200
Gujarati	690	555
Punjabi	10,865	4,680
Singhalese	745	335
Tamil	1,275	925
Bangladeshi, n.i.e.	1,480	185
East Indian, n.i.e.	220,630	40,805
Pakistani, n.i.e.	24,880	6,775
Sri Lankan, n.i.e.	5,830	1,455
East/South East Asian origins	600,530	87,960*
Burmese	600	810
Cambodian	10,365	1,430
Chinese	360,320	53,720
Filipino	93,280	13,775
Indonesian	1,265	2,265
Japanese	40,245	14,260
Korean	27,680	2,020
Laotian	9,575	1,510
Malay	815	1,565
Thai	1,230	1,700
Vietnamese	53,015	9,980
Other Asian, n.i.e.	2,145	935
Pacific Islands origins	6,620	3,725*
Fijian	6,035	2,000
Polynesian	230	500
Other Pacific Islanders	360	1,335
Latin, Central and South American origins	32,240	17,795*
Argentinian	1,275	1,295
Brazilian	1,365	1,670
Chilean	8,075	2,305
Ecuadorian	1,240	320
Mexican	3,000	5,130
Peruvian	2,620	1,600
Other Latin/Central/South American origins	14,660	6,025

* See explanation at end of Appendix.

Composition of Major Ethnic Categories, for Canada, 1986 Census
— Concluded

	<u>Single origins</u>	<u>Multiple origins</u>
Caribbean origins	48,475	32,685*
Cuban	410	775
Haitian	10,865	6,140
Jamaican	11,210	8,510
Puerto Rican	375	720
Other Caribbean, n.i.e.	950	1,380
Other West Indian	24,670	15,620
Black origins	174,970	85,360*
Black	170,340	83,775
African Black	4,630	4,120
Aboriginal peoples	373,260	338,460*
Inuit	27,290	9,175
Métis	59,745	91,865
North American Indian	286,230	262,730

Note: Provincial counts for the above groups can be obtained from Catalogue No. 93-109, Table 2.

* The multiple response count for each major ethnic category does not equal the sum of the component ethnic groups. For example, a respondent giving the ethnic origin combination of English and Irish will be counted once in the multiple response for the major ethnic category "British origins" (6,038,760), but will be counted in both the English multiple (4,561,910) and in the Irish multiple (2,922,605).

n.i.e. = not included elsewhere.

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