

89F0031E
c.3

Product 89F0031MPE

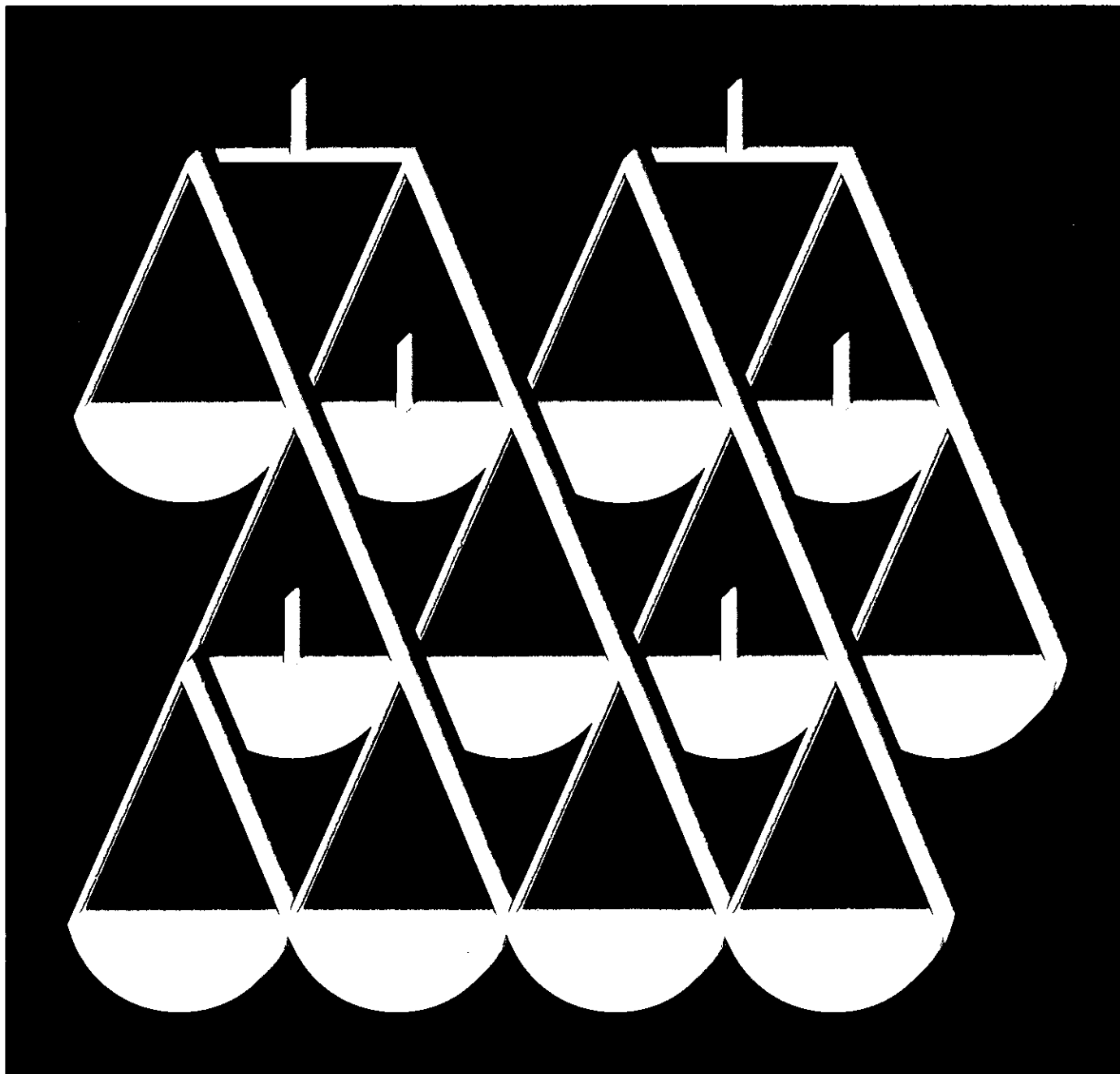
Employment Equity Data Program

STATISTICS STATISTIQUE
CANADA CANADA

MAY 9 1995

LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

COLLECTING CENSUS DATA ON CANADA'S VISIBLE MINORITY POPULATION: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



Statistics Statistique
Canada Canada

Canada

Data in Many Forms . . .

Statistics Canada disseminates data in a variety of forms. In addition to publications, both standard and special tabulations are offered. Data are available on CD, diskette, computer print-out, microfiche and microfilm, and magnetic tape. Maps and other geographic reference materials are available for some types of data. Direct online access to aggregated information is possible through CANSIM, Statistics Canada's machine-readable database and retrieval system.

How to Obtain More Information

Inquiries about this publication and related statistics or services should be directed to:

Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.

Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0T6 Telephone: 1 (613) 951-0247 or to the Statistics Canada reference centre in:

Halifax	426-5331	Regina	780-5405
Montreal	283-5725	Edmonton	495-3027
Ottawa	951-8116	Calgary	292-6717
Toronto	973-6586	Vancouver	666-3691
Winnipeg	983-4020		

Toll-free access is provided in all provinces and territories, for users who reside outside the local dialing area of any of the regional reference centres.

Newfoundland, Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island	1-800-565-7192
Quebec	1-800-361-2831
Ontario	1-800-263-1136
Saskatchewan	1-800-667-7164
Manitoba	1-800-661-7828
Southern Alberta	1-800-882-5616
Alberta and Northwest Territories	1-800-563-7828
British Columbia and Yukon	1-800-663-1551

Toll-free Order-only Line (Canada and United States)	1-800-267-6677
---	-----------------------

How to Order Publications

This and other Statistics Canada publications may be purchased from local authorized agents and other community bookstores, through the local Statistics Canada offices, or by mail order to Marketing Division, Sales and Service, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

1 (613) 951-7277
Facsimile Number 1 (613) 951-1584
Toronto Credit Card Only 1 (416) 973-8018



Statistics Canada
Housing Family and Social Statistics Division

COLLECTING CENSUS DATA ON CANADA'S VISIBLE MINORITY POPULATION: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Karen Kelly
Employment Equity Data Program

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada

© Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, 1995

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission from Licence Services, Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.

March 1995

Price: Canada, \$25
Other countries, US\$25

Product 89F0031MPE
ISBN: 0-660-15569-9

Ottawa

Version française de cette publication disponible sur demande (Produit 89F0031MPF)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	7
-----	------------------------	---

2.0	Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Relevant Census Questions	8
2.1	The Ethnic Origin Question	8
2.2	Other Ethno-cultural Questions	11

3.0	Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Visible Minority Definitions	12
3.1	The 1981, 1986 and 1991 Definitions	12
3.2	Differences in the Subgroup Inclusions	23
3.3	A Note on Visible Minority and Aboriginal Multiples	27

4.0	Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Visible Minority Counts	28
4.1	Distribution of Visible Minorities by Province	29
4.2	Analysis by Visible Minority Subgroup	31
4.3	Components of Change	33

5.0	Conclusion	43
-----	----------------------	----

	Bibliography	45
--	------------------------	----

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

LIST OF TABLES

1	The Black Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	15
2	The Indo-Pakistani/South Asian Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	17
3	The Chinese Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	18
4	The Korean Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	18
5	The Japanese Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	19
6	The South East Asian Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	19
7	The Filipino Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	20
8	The Other Pacific Islander Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	20
9	The West Asian and Arab Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	21
10	The Latin American Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991	22
11	Distribution of the visible minority population by province and territory, 1981, 1986, 1991	30
12	Distribution of the visible minority population by subgroup, 1981, 1986, 1991 . .	32
13	Visible minority counts obtained by applying 1981 and 1986 procedures to 1986 data	34
14	Visible minority counts obtained by applying 1986 and 1991 procedures to 1991 data	35
15	Incidence of single and multiple reporting to the Census ethnic origin question, 1981, 1986, 1991	36
16	Incidence of reporting of "Black" to the Census ethnic origin question, 1981, 1986, 1991	37
17	Percentage of change between the 1986 and 1991 visible minority counts accounted for by the inclusion of non-permanent residents	38
18	1986 visible minority population showing the non-immigrant population and the immigrant population by period of immigration	39

TABLE OF CONTENTS (concluded)

19	Percentage of change between the 1981 and 1986 visible minority counts accounted for by immigration	40
20	1991 visible minority population showing the non-immigrant population and the immigrant population by period of immigration	41
21	Percentage of change between the 1986 and 1991 visible minority counts accounted for by immigration	42

LIST OF FIGURES

1	Ethnic origin question included on the 1981 Census	9
2	Ethnic origin question included on the 1986 Census	9
3	Ethnic origin question included on the 1991 Census	10
4	Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 ethnic origin questions	11
5a	Representation of visible minorities in the total population, Canada, 1981, 1986, 1991	28
5b	Representation of visible minorities in the total population, Canada, provinces and territories, 1981, 1986, 1991	29
6	Percentage increase in the visible minority population from 1981 to 1986 and from 1986 to 1991, Canada, provinces and territories	31
7	Percentage increase in the visible minority population from 1981 to 1986 and from 1986 to 1991 by subgroup	33

1.0 Introduction

The ethnic composition of Canada is becoming increasingly diverse and this changing demography is providing new challenges and different needs for Canadians. The source countries of immigrants have changed dramatically in the last twenty years or so with immigrants from Asia, the Caribbean and to a lesser extent South America and Africa replacing those from traditional sources such as Europe and the United States. This recent shift to Asian immigrants is reflected in the list of countries from which immigrants originated. During the 1980s, four of the top five countries of origin were Asian. Viet Nam was the leader in this regard, providing the most new immigrants, followed by the United Kingdom, India, Hong Kong, and China. In contrast, during the 1956-1962 period, only three of the top 20 source countries were non-European.¹

The change in Canada's ethnic composition has received much attention from both public and private sectors in recent years and the demand for data needed to study and understand the changing demography has increased. Many of the requests for such information are related to legislative and program requirements associated with the *Employment Equity Act*.

The *Employment Equity Act* was passed on April 23, 1986 with the stated purpose of achieving "... equality in the work place so that no person shall be denied employment opportunities or benefits for reasons unrelated to ability ..." (Section 2, *Employment Equity Act*, 1986). The *Act* and its supplementary regulations identify four designated groups - women, Aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities and persons who are in a visible minority in Canada (visible minorities). This report provides a historical perspective on the collection of data on visible minorities including a look at the questions used in obtaining information on the population, the definitions employed to derive the counts and an analysis of the data.

That the definition of Canada's visible minority population is not straightforward and involves "tough and often debatable decisions regarding inclusion/exclusion of some persons" is well documented in Boxhill (1990), which outlines some of the choices to be made in producing counts of the visible minority population in Canada. Other discussions of the visible minority definitions can be found in Coulter and Furrie (1989) and IWGEED (1993). The reader is also referred to Boxhill (1991) for a description of methods by which the visible minority population in Canada has been identified and the documents used to collect information on this population.

¹ Logan (1991) suggests that the "removal of national origin restrictions in 1962, introduction of the point system in the *Immigration Act* of 1967, and closer alignment of immigration to labour market needs" are key to understanding this change in composition of immigrants to Canada.

2.0 *Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Relevant Census Questions*

Counts of the visible minority population in Canada were first produced in December of 1986 and released by Human Resources Development Canada as the *Employment Equity Availability Data Report on Designated Groups*. The data were updated in December of 1988 and again in December of 1993. The Census of Population, conducted every five years by Statistics Canada, served as the source for these three sets of data. The first counts were drawn from the 1981 Census while the 1986 and 1991 Censuses, respectively, were used to produce the updated data.

The regulations prepared in support of the *Employment Equity Act* define visible minorities as persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are "*non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour*". As the census does not include questions which enable the direct identification of visible minorities, a number of questions were used to identify persons who are or are likely to be in a visible minority in Canada.

The identification of visible minorities from the two censuses in the 1980s and from the 1991 Census relied heavily on information obtained in response to a question on ethnic origin. It is logical, therefore, to start this discussion with a look at the ethnic origin questions that appeared on the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Censuses. The discussion here has been kept brief as earlier reports have examined these questions more fully (Wright, 1989, Boxhill, 1990 and 1991).

2.1 *The Ethnic Origin Question*

The questions on ethnic origin used in the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Censuses are shown as Figures 1, 2, and 3, respectively. In all three censuses, the ethnic origin question was posed to a sample of one in five households. Of importance to this discussion, and in particular to the comparison between the 1981, 1986 and 1991 definitions, is the fact that the 1981 question on ethnic origin did not encourage multiple responses (i.e., it did not specifically request the provision of as many answers as applicable).² Figure 4 compares the 1981 and 1986 ethnic origin questions and the 1986 and 1991 questions.

² The data capture procedures did, however, accept more than one response when given.

Figure 1: Ethnic origin question included on the 1981 Census

26. To which ethnic or cultural group did you or your ancestors belong on first coming to this continent?
(See Guide for further information)

<input type="checkbox"/>	French	<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Peoples
<input type="checkbox"/>	English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inuit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Status or registered Indian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-status Indian
<input type="checkbox"/>	German	<input type="checkbox"/>	Métis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Italian		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ukrainian		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dutch (Netherlands)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polish		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jewish		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese		
<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		
	Other (specify)		

Figure 2: Ethnic origin question included on the 1986 Census

17. To which ethnic or cultural group(s) do you or did your ancestors belong? (See Guide) Mark or specify as many as applicable.

<input type="checkbox"/>	French
<input type="checkbox"/>	English
<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish
<input type="checkbox"/>	German
<input type="checkbox"/>	Italian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ukrainian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dutch (Netherlands)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jewish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inuit
<input type="checkbox"/>	North American Indian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Métis

Other ethnic or cultural group(s). For example, Portuguese, Greek, Indian (India), Pakistani, Filipino, Japanese, Vietnamese. (specify below)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
				Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
				Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
				Other (specify)

Figure 3: Ethnic origin question included on the 1991 Census

15. To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's ancestors belong?

Mark or specify as many as applicable.

Note: While most people of Canada view themselves as Canadian, information about their ancestral origins has been collected since the 1901 Census to reflect the changing composition of the Canadian population and is needed to ensure that everyone, regardless of his/her ethnic or cultural background, has equal opportunity to share fully in the economic, social, cultural and political life of Canada. Therefore, this question refers to the origins of this person's ancestors.

See Guide.

<input type="checkbox"/>	French
<input type="checkbox"/>	English
<input type="checkbox"/>	German
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scottish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Italian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ukrainian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dutch (Netherlands)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jewish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Polish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black
<input type="checkbox"/>	North American Indian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Métis
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inuit/Eskimo

Other ethnic or cultural group(s) - Specify

Examples of other ethnic or cultural groups are: Portuguese, Greek, Indian from India, Pakistani, Filipino, Vietnamese, Japanese, Lebanese, Haitian, etc.

Figure 4: Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 ethnic origin questions

Comparison of the 1981 and 1986 ethnic origin questions	Comparison of the 1986 and 1991 ethnic origin questions
<p>The phrase "on first coming to this continent" was removed in 1986 and the question was changed from "<u>did</u> you or your ancestors" to "<u>do</u> you or <u>did</u> your ancestors".</p> <p>Multiple responses were encouraged in 1986 (the letter "s" was added to the word "group" as was the instruction "Mark or specify as many as applicable").</p> <p>Minor changes were made to the order of the mark-in boxes based on the population counts obtained in the 1981 Census.</p> <p>The Aboriginal origins were modified. The categories "Status or registered Indian" and "Non-status Indian" were replaced by "North American Indian" in 1986.</p> <p>A mark-in box for "Black" was added in 1986.</p> <p>Examples of some origins which were regarded as visible minority origins in counts from the 1981 Census were included in 1986.</p> <p>The number of write-in boxes was increased from one in the 1981 Census to three in 1986.</p>	<p>There was a clear shift to an ancestry dimension in 1991; the question inquired as to which ethnic or cultural group(s) the person's <u>ancestors</u> belonged (the 1986 question queried about "you" or "your ancestors").</p> <p>Minor changes were made to the order of the mark-in boxes in 1991 based on population counts obtained in 1986.</p> <p>A note to explain that the purpose of the question was to measure the ancestral origins of the Canadian population was included in 1991.</p> <p>Lebanese and Haitian were added as examples of what might be reported as write-ins in 1991.</p> <p>The word "Eskimo" was included with the "Inuit" response category in 1991.</p> <p>Space for two write-in responses was allotted, down from three in the 1986 Census.</p>

2.2 *Other Ethno-cultural Questions*

The limitations to using ethnic origin data to quantify the visible minority population are described in Boxhill (1984). While in the absence of a race question, ethnic origin is the main question on which the identification of visible minorities can be based, other questions must also be considered. A frequently cited example relates to the fact that in the 1981 Census, many persons born in Haiti reported French as their ethnic origin and as such would not have been identified as visible minorities based on ethnic origin alone. So while ethnic origin data serve as the basis for determining the size of the visible minority population in Canada, they cannot stand on their own in this identification. Responses to questions on place of birth, mother tongue and religion (in 1981 and 1991)³ played a role in determining the visible minority population. These questions have not changed significantly on the three censuses.

³ While religion was used to "bring" persons into the visible minority population in 1981, it was only used for subgroup assignment in 1991. This is discussed further in chapter 3.

3.0 Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Visible Minority Definitions

3.1 The 1981, 1986 and 1991 Definitions

The definitions in all three censuses attempted to identify persons who are or are likely to be in a visible minority in Canada; the element of likelihood implying the counts produced are "best" estimates of this population. The definitions were determined by an Interdepartmental⁴ Working Group on Employment Equity Data and were approved by its supervisory body, the Interdepartmental Steering Committee on Employment Equity Data.

The regulations that accompany the *Employment Equity Act* identify the following subgroups as comprising the visible minority population in Canada. These subgroups guided the development of the definitions.

Black
Indo-Pakistani⁵
Chinese
Korean
Japanese
South East Asian
Filipino
West Asian and Arab
Other (including Latin Americans and Indonesians and Other Pacific Islanders)⁶

The derivation of the visible minority population may be described as an evolutionary process. Efforts have been made to facilitate historical comparability between the censuses but also to refine the definition by making use of accumulated knowledge. The following tables make this evolutionary process apparent. By way of example, consider the Chinese subgroup. In 1981, only those who reported a Chinese ethnic origin were included. The 1986 definition was expanded to include not only those with a reported ethnic origin of Chinese, but also persons born in Macao who gave Portuguese as their origin. The 1991 definition refined the process still further to also include persons born in Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Macao, Mongolia and Taiwan whose ethnic origin was grouped in the category "Other Asian not included elsewhere". The 1991 definition also included persons with a mother tongue of Chinese or Sino-Tibetan.

⁴ The departments/agencies represented on this committee are as follows: Human Resources Development Canada, the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Treasury Board Secretariat, the Public Service Commission and Statistics Canada.

⁵ This group is referred to as South Asian in the 1991 definition.

⁶ While three groups were grouped together as "Other" in this original list, they were considered separately in the definitions.

Most changes that were made to the definitions in the subsequent censuses were in fact refinements to the approach. The tables that follow reveal that the similarities between the definitions outweigh the differences. While the differences between the definitions are discussed in greater detail shortly, they may be summarized as follows.

- (i) modifications which were the result of changes to the question and/or the data capture procedures;
e.g., the encouragement of multiple reporting of ethnic origins in 1986 and 1991 as compared to 1981
- (ii) the movement of certain ethnic origins from one visible minority subgroup to another;
e.g., movement of Indonesians from the Other Pacific Islanders subgroup in 1981 to the South East Asians group in 1986⁷
- (iii) changes to the inclusion criteria;
e.g., respondents with Argentinean and Chilean origins were not included in the visible minority population in 1986 and 1991 whereas in 1981 they were included
- (iv) the unavailability of the religion variable for use in 1986;
- (v) the more extensive use of the mother tongue variable in 1991.

In making comparisons between the three sets of definitions, the tendency may be to get "bogged down" with the details of changes that were made. It is important to realize, however, that the great majority of the visible minority population in all three censuses was identified solely based on the ethnic origin variable. And while in some cases, the list of inclusions is more extensive from one census to the next (particularly in 1991), the additions had only a minor effect on the overall size of the population (see section 4.3.1).

The reader should also be aware of certain changes in the coding of ethnic origin responses and the handling of multiple responses that occurred between censuses. Statistics Canada aggregates origins for which there are only a small number of reported cases into "catch-all categories" such as "Other African not included elsewhere" and "Other Caribbean not included elsewhere". The countries that are included in these categories is dependent on the number of cases reported in a given census. Thus, the countries included do not necessarily stay the same from one census to the next and this in turn affects the list of ethnic origins that will be included in the visible minority definition. For example, the ethnic origins Barbadian, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, and Somalian are included in the list of Black subgroup inclusions in 1991 but not in the two

7

Note that such changes did not affect the overall size of the visible minority population but rather, the size of individual subgroups.

earlier censuses. While this may appear to be a difference in approach, in actuality, Barbadian was coded with Other West Indian in 1986 and Caribbean in 1981 (which are listed as being included). Similarly, Ethiopian, Ghanaian and Somalian were grouped in the African Black category in both 1981 and 1986.

The handling of multiple responses also deserves comment. As mentioned earlier, the ethnic origin question on the 1981 questionnaire did not explicitly elicit multiple responses although the data capture procedures did accept more than one response when given. In contrast, the 1986 and 1991 ethnic origin questions specifically requested the respondent to mark or specify as many "ethnic or cultural group(s)" as applicable. A strategy, therefore, had to be developed to handle cases of multiple reporting for those in the visible minority population. Persons reporting themselves as having Black and Chinese origins, for example, could not be included in both the Black and Chinese groups without artificially increasing the total population counts. In multiple response situations where one of the responses was among the categories identified as constituents of the visible minority population and the other(s) were not (e.g., Chinese and English), the strategy was to assign the respondent to the visible minority group. To deal with multiple responses involving two or more visible minority groups, the 1986 and 1991 definitions included a category designated as "**multiple visible minority responses**". Persons with ethnic origin combinations such as Black and Chinese were assigned to this group in both 1986 and 1991.

Tables 1 to 10 provide the detailed inclusions at the subgroup level for all three census years. The following abbreviations are used in the tables:

- n.i.e. - not included elsewhere
- n.o.s. - not otherwise specified
- n.e.s. - not elsewhere specified

Table 1: The Black Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: African Black, Canadian Black, Caribbean, Cuban, Haitian, or Other Black n.e.s.</p> <p>Place of birth inclusions: All persons born in Haiti</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Other African whose place of birth was <u>not</u> Republic of South Africa, Rhodesia or Southwest Africa</p> <p>Ethnic origin, place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of British or French and a place of birth of Anguilla, Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Monserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nevis, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Suriname, Trinidad-Tobago, Turks and Caicos, U.S. Virgin Islands or British Virgin Islands and reported a religion other than Hinduism, Sikhism or Islam</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: African Black, Black, Haitian, Jamaican, "Other Caribbean n.i.e." or "Other West Indian"</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of French and place of birth of Haiti</p> <p>Persons whose ethnic origin was "Other African n.i.e." and who were born in countries other than Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Republic of South Africa, Tunisia, the Western Sahara and Zimbabwe.</p> <p>Persons with an ethnic origin of British, French or Dutch and a place of birth of Anguilla, Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, or the British or U.S. Virgin Islands.</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: African Black, Barbadian, Black, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, Haitian, or Somali</p> <p>Ethnic origin and religion inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was Guyanese, Jamaican, Other Caribbean n.i.e., Trinidadian/Tobagonian or West Indian, n.i.e. and whose religion was not Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of English (single response), Other Latin/Central/South American or "Other African n.i.e." and a place of birth as Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Turks and Caicos Islands, or the British or U.S. Virgin Islands</p> <p>Persons with an ethnic origin of French (single response) or "Other African n.i.e." and were born in French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Haiti or Martinique</p> <p>Persons whose ethnic origin was Dutch or "Other African n.i.e." and who were born in Aruba or Netherlands Antilles</p> <p>Persons with an ethnic origin of English (single response) or "Other African n.i.e." and a place of birth of Botswana, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Zambia or Zimbabwe</p>

The Black Subgroup (continued)

1981	1986	1991
		<p>Persons whose ethnic origin was French (as a single response) or "Other African n.i.e." and who were born in Benin, Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles or Togo</p> <p>Those with an ethnic origin of Portuguese or "Other African n.i.e." and a place of birth of Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique or Sao Tome & Principe</p> <p>Persons whose ethnic origin was "Other African n.i.e." and who were born in Angola, Cape Verde Islands, Comoros Islands, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Madagascar, Namibia, Rep. of Djibouti, St. Helena & Ascension, Somalia (Dem Rep), Sudan or Zaire</p> <p>Place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons who were born in Guyana, Jamaica, Grenada, Kenya, Suriname, Tanzania, Trinidad/Tobago and Uganda whose religion was <u>not</u> Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Place of birth, religion and mother tongue inclusions: Persons who were born in South Africa and whose religion was not Hinduism or Islam and whose mother tongue was not Dutch, English or Other Germanic</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons whose mother tongue was Creole, Other African, Other Bantu, Other Niger-Congo or Swahili</p> <p>Other inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was "Other African n.i.e." and whose place of birth was <u>not</u> South Africa</p>

Table 2: The Indo-Pakistani / South Asian Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Bangladeshi, Bengali, Gujarati, Indian n.e.s., Indian n.o.s., Indo-Pakistani n.e.s., Other Pakistani-Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Punjabi, Singhalese, Sri Lankan or Tamil</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Other Far East Asian and place of birth Bangladesh, India, Pakistan or Sri Lankan</p> <p>Persons who reported being Inuit, Métis, Non-Status or Status Indian and who were born outside Canada</p> <p>Ethnic origin, place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons with a British or French origin who were born in Anguilla, Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Monserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nevis, Puerto Rico, Surinam, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad-Tobago, Turks and Caicos, U.S. Virgin Islands or British Virgin Islands and who reported a religion of Hinduism, Sikhism or Islam</p> <p>Religion inclusions: Persons with a reported religion of Sikhism (not brought in by the previous statement)</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Bangladeshi n.i.e., Bengali, East Indian n.i.e., Gujarati, Pakistani n.i.e., Punjabi, Singhalese, Sri Lankan n.i.e. and Tamil.</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with a place of birth of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan or Sri Lanka and an ethnic origin of Portuguese or "Other Asian n.i.e."</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Bangladeshi n.i.e., Bengali, East Indian n.i.e., Pakistani n.i.e., Punjabi, Singhalese, Sri Lankan and Tamil.</p> <p>Ethnic origin and religion inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was Fijian, Guyanese, Jamaican, Other Caribbean n.i.e., Trinidadian/Tobagonian or West Indian n.i.e. and whose religion was Hinduism or Islam.</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of "Other Asian n.i.e." and a place of birth of Bangladesh, India, Mauritius, Mayotte, Pakistan, Rep. of Maldives or Sri Lanka</p> <p>Place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons who were born in Fiji, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, Kenya, Suriname, Tanzania, Trinidad/Tobago and Uganda and whose religion was Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Persons who were born in South Africa and whose religion was Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Other Dravidian, "Other Indo-Iranian n.i.e.", Punjabi, Sindhi, Singhalese, Tamil, Telugu or Urdu.</p> <p>Other inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e." (who were not identified by any of the above statements)</p>

Table 3: The Chinese Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Chinese</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Chinese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons who were born in Macao <u>and</u> who reported Portuguese as their ethnic origin</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Chinese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons whose place of birth was Macao <u>and</u> whose ethnic origin was either Portuguese or "Other Asian n.i.e."</p> <p>Persons who were born in Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Mongolia and Taiwan <u>and</u> whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e."</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Chinese or Sino-Tibetan</p>

Table 4: The Korean Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Korean</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Korean</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Korean</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons whose place of birth was North or South Korea <u>and</u> whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e."</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Korean</p>

Table 5: The Japanese Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Japanese</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Japanese</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Japanese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons whose place of birth was Japan and whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e."</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Japanese</p>

Table 6: The South East Asian Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Burmese, Cambodian, Laotian, Malay, Thai and Vietnamese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of "Other South East Asian" and whose place of birth was not Bangladesh, India, Pakistan or Sri Lanka</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Burmese, Cambodian, Indonesian, Laotian, Malay, Thai and Vietnamese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Respondents who gave their ethnic origin as "Other Asian n.i.e." and whose place of birth was not Bangladesh, India, Pakistan or Sri Lanka</p>	<p>Ethnic origin Inclusion: Burmese, Cambodian (Kampuchean), Indonesian, Laotian, Malay, Thai and Vietnamese</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was Dutch (as a single response) or "Other Asian n.i.e." and whose place of birth was Indonesia</p> <p>Persons whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e." and place of birth was Kampuchea (Cambodia), Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Union of Myanmar (Burma) and Vietnam</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Austro-Asiatic, Khmer, Lao, Malayalam, Malay-Bahasa, Thai and Vietnamese</p>

Table 7: The Filipino Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
Ethnic origin inclusions: Filipino	Ethnic origin inclusions: Filipino	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Filipino</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with a place of birth of the Philippines and an ethnic origin "Other Asian n.i.e."</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Philipino/Tagalog</p>

Table 8: The Other Pacific Islanders Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
Ethnic origin inclusions: Fijian, Indonesian or Polynesian	Ethnic origin inclusions: Fijian, Other Pacific Islanders and Polynesian	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Polynesian</p> <p>Ethnic origin and religion inclusions: Persons whose ethnic origin was Fijian and whose religion was not Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons who were born in Tonga or Vanuatu and whose ethnic origin was English (as a single response)</p> <p>Persons with a place of birth of French Polynesia, New Caledonia or Reunion and an ethnic origin of French (single response)</p> <p>Place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons whose place of birth was Fiji and whose religion was not Hinduism or Islam</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Other Malayo-Polynesian</p>

Table 9: The West Asians and Arab Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Armenian, Asian Arab, Iranian, Egyptian, Lebanese, North African Arab, Palestinian, Syrian and Turkish</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Arab n.i.e., Armenian, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian and Turk</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons who were born in Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia or the Western Sahara <u>and</u> whose ethnic origin was "Other African n.i.e."</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Afghan, Arab n.i.e., Armenian, Egyptian, Kurdish, Iranian, Iraqi, Lebanese, Maghrebi n.i.e., Moroccan, Palestinian, Syrian, Turk, West Asian n.i.e.</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with a place of birth of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bhutan, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Republic of Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Western Sahara (D.S.A.R.) <u>and</u> an ethnic origin of "Other Asian n.i.e." or "Other African n.i.e."</p> <p>Place of birth and religion inclusions: Persons who were born in Israel <u>and</u> whose religion was <u>not</u> Jewish</p> <p>Mother tongue inclusions: Persons with a mother tongue of Arabic, Armenian, Baluchi, Kurdish, Pashto, Persian (Farsi), Turkish or Turkish n.i.e.</p>

Table 10: The Latin American Subgroup Inclusions, 1981, 1986, 1991

1981	1986	1991
<p>Ethnic origin and mother tongue inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Argentinian, Brazilian, Chilean, Ecuadorian, Mexican, Peruvian or "Other Latin American" and a mother tongue of Spanish, Portuguese, English or French</p> <p>Ethnic origin, place of birth and mother tongue inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Spanish or Portuguese and a place of birth of Anguilla, Antigua, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Montserrat, Netherland Antilles, Nevis, Nicaragua, Panama, Panama Canal Zone, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uruguay, Venezuela, U.S. Virgin Islands or British Virgin Islands and a mother tongue of Spanish, Portuguese, English or French</p>	<p>Ethnic origin and mother tongue inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Brazilian, Cuban, Ecuadorian, Latin/Central or South American, Mexican, Peruvian or Puerto Rican origin and Portuguese, Spanish, English or French as their mother tongue.</p> <p>Ethnic origin, place of birth and mother tongue inclusions: Respondents who gave Portuguese as a single ethnic origin and English, French or Portuguese as their mother tongue and Brazil as their place of birth</p> <p>Persons who gave Spanish as their ethnic origin and Spanish, French or English as their mother tongue and Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay or Venezuela as their place of birth</p>	<p>Ethnic origin inclusions: Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Ecuadorian, Guatemalan, Hispanic, Mexican, Nicaraguan, Peruvian or Salvadorean</p> <p>Ethnic origin and place of birth inclusions: Persons with an ethnic origin of Spanish or "Other Latin/Central/South American n.i.e." and a place of birth of Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico or Venezuela</p> <p>Persons who were born in Brazil and whose ethnic origin was Other Latin/Central/South American or Portuguese</p> <p>Persons with an ethnic origin of "Other Latin/Central/South American n.i.e." and whose place of birth was <u>not</u> Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, or Uruguay</p>

3.2 *Differences in the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Subgroup Inclusions*

The Black Subgroup

A comparison of the lists of ethnic origins that brought persons into the Black subgroup in the three censuses reveals that Cuban is included in the list in 1981 but not in 1986 and 1991. In 1986 and 1991, persons who reported an ethnic origin of Cuban were included in the Latin American subgroup. Also revealed are the differences in the handling of multiple responses that were mentioned above. Canadian Black, for example, appears in the 1981 list but not in the lists for the subsequent censuses. In 1986 and 1991 a response of Canadian Black was considered a multiple response of "Canadian" and "Black". The "Black" response was sufficient to bring persons into the population.

The difference in the coding of certain responses is also noted. Jamaican was not coded separately in 1981 and hence does not appear in the list of 1981 inclusions. Barbadian, Ethiopian, Ghanaian, Somalian, Guyanese, Trinidadian/Tobagonian are included in the list of inclusions in 1991 but not in the earlier definitions as they were not coded separately before 1991.

Other refinements in strategy include the handling of persons born in Haiti. In 1981, all persons with a birth place of Haiti, regardless of their ethnic origin were included in the Black subgroup. In 1986, only those who specified an ethnic origin of French were included. The 1991 algorithm followed the 1986 approach.

The North African countries, as well as Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, were excluded from the places of birth to assign respondents to the Black group in 1986 and 1991. Persons born in these countries were assigned to the West Asian and Arab or Latin American groups. While Dutch ethnic origin was used as a selection criteria in 1986 and 1991, it was not used in 1981.

The 1981 and 1991 strategies also differ from the 1986 approach in their use of the religion variable. In 1981 and 1991, religion was used, for example, to distinguish Blacks from South Asians in the Caribbean. Note that the 1991 approach dropped Sikhism from its inclusion criteria.

Finally, the list of inclusions in 1991 is more detailed due, in part, to the splitting of the English, French and Dutch ethnic origin and place of birth criteria. In addition, persons with a Portuguese or "Other African n.i.e." ethnic origin who were born in Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique or Sao Tome and Principe were included in the population in 1991. The 1991 strategy also used mother tongue as a selection criteria.

The South Asian (Indo-Pakistani) Subgroup

The 1986 approach for identifying the South Asian subgroup differs from that used in 1981 and 1991 due to the absence of the religion variable. This variable was used in 1981 in conjunction with place of birth and ethnic origin to identify respondents from the Caribbean who reported a religion of Sikhism, Islam or Hinduism and a British or French ethnic origin. The 1981 definition also brought in persons (not previously identified) who reported a religion of Sikhism.

The religion variable was used in 1991 to identify South Asians in the Caribbean, Fiji and parts of Africa. As mentioned above, the Sikhism religion was dropped from the screen-in criteria in 1991. So while in 1981, reporting a religion of Sikhism was sufficient to bring a person into the South Asian population, the 1991 strategy saw religion used for subgroup assignment only.

Other differences relate to the list of ethnic origin inclusions. Guyanese and Trinidadian/Tobagonian are included in the list of inclusions in 1991 but not in the earlier definitions because, as noted above, they were not coded separately before 1991. Gujarati does not appear in the 1991 list as it was not coded separately in 1991.

Use of the terms "status Indian" and "non-status Indian" in the ethnic origin question in 1981 led to misreporting by some persons born in India or with origins in the Indian sub-continent. Therefore, the 1981 strategy included a statement whereby persons who reported being Inuit, Métis, non-status or status Indian who were born outside Canada were added to the count. The change in question wording on the 1986 and 1991 questionnaires meant that such a statement was not required in these years.

The 1986 definition included a statement that brought in persons with a Portuguese or "Other Asian n.i.e." ethnic origin who were born in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, or Sri Lanka.

Finally, minor changes were made to the ethnic origin/place of birth criteria between censuses and the mother tongue variable was used for the first time in 1991 to bring persons into the population.

The Chinese Subgroup

In 1981, only those who gave Chinese as their ethnic origin were counted in the Chinese group. In 1986, respondents who reported a Portuguese ethnic origin and a birthplace of Macao were also assigned to this group. The 1991 definition went a few steps further to include those born in Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Mongolia and Taiwan whose ethnic origin was coded by Statistics Canada as "Other Asian not included elsewhere". Persons with a Chinese or Sino-Tibetan mother tongue were also included in 1991.

The Korean Subgroup

The 1981 and 1986 approaches were identical. The 1991 definition used place of birth and mother tongue criteria as well, such that persons born in North or South Korea whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e." and those with a Korean mother tongue were included.

The Japanese Subgroup

As with the Korean subgroup, the 1986 approach followed that of 1981. In 1991, the place of birth and mother tongue variables were used. Persons born in Japan whose ethnic origin was "Other Asian n.i.e." and those with a mother tongue of Japanese were included in this subgroup.

The South East Asian Subgroup

Indonesians, who were included in the Other Pacific Islanders subgroup in 1981, were assigned as South East Asians in 1986 and again, in 1991. Persons who reported an ethnic origin of Dutch (single response) or "Other Asian n.i.e." who were born in Indonesia were included in this subgroup in 1991. Refinements were made to the place of birth inclusions in 1991 and mother tongue was used for the first time in 1991.

The Filipino Subgroup

The 1986 approach followed that of 1981 including only persons who had reported an ethnic origin of Filipino. In 1991, those born in the Philippines with an ethnic origin of "Other Asian n.i.e." and those with a mother tongue of Philipino/Tagalog were also included.

The Other Pacific Islanders Subgroup

As mentioned above, Indonesians were included in this group in 1981 but were included in the South East Asian group in 1986 and 1991. The 1991 strategy also differed in its use of religion to exclude persons with a Fijian ethnic origin or a place of birth of Fiji whose religion was Hinduism or Islam. Note that Other Pacific Islander does not appear in the 1991 list as it was not coded separately in 1991. The 1991 definition also included persons born in French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Reunion with a French ethnic origin as well as those whose mother tongue was Other Malayo-Polynesian.

The West Asians and Arab Subgroup

The list of ethnic origin inclusions differs slightly between the three definitions. Afghan, Iraqi, Moroccan and Kurdish were coded separately in 1991 and hence, are listed separately in the 1991 definition. Note that the 1981 list of ethnic origin inclusions includes groups collectively referred to as "North African Arabs" and "Asian Arabs". Among the write-in responses comprising these groups were Moroccan, Libyan and Saudi. In 1986 the category "Arab n.i.e." was introduced. The 1991 coding structure saw the use of "Asian n.i.e." again as well as the use of "West Asian n.i.e." and "Maghrebi n.i.e.".

While place of birth was not used as a selection criteria for this subgroup in 1981, the 1986 and 1991 definitions did make use of this variable. The 1991 definition included a statement to include persons born in Israel whose religion was not Jewish and finally, the 1991 strategy used mother tongue as a screen-in criteria.

The Latin American Subgroup

In comparing the three definitions for this subgroup, a number of changes are noted in the ethnic origin inclusions. Those reporting an ethnic origin of Cuban were included in the Latin American subgroup in 1986 and 1991 but not in 1981. Puerto Rican was also added to the list of inclusions in 1986. (Note that Puerto Rican was included with "Other Caribbean n.i.e." in 1991.) Colombian, Guatemalan, Hispanic, Nicaraguan and Salvadorean were grouped in the "catch all category" in 1981 and 1986 but coded separately in 1991. Hence, they are listed separately in the 1991 definition. Persons who reported their ethnic origin as Argentinean or Chilean or their place of birth as Argentina or Chile were not included in the Latin American group in 1986. This strategy was also followed in 1991 with Paraguayan and Uruguayan ethnic origins (and Paraguay and Uruguay places of birth) added to the list of exclusions.

The 1986 and 1991 strategies were stricter in their inclusion criteria for those reporting Portuguese as their ethnic origin. As well, a number of countries of birth were dropped from the 1986 and 1991 definitions (see Table 10) as compared to 1981. Finally, the mother tongue variable was dropped from the selection criteria in 1991.

3.3 *A Note on Visible Minority and Aboriginal Multiples*

As the *Employment Equity Act* identifies Aboriginal peoples and visible minorities as two distinct groups, a decision had to be taken regarding the handling of persons who reported both visible minority and Aboriginal ethnic origins. To avoid giving preferential treatment to one group, it was decided to include these persons in the total counts of both the visible minority and Aboriginal peoples populations⁸.

⁸ The number of persons affected was small (12,485 in 1986 and 23,575 in 1991). The number for 1981 is not available.

4.0 *Comparison of the 1981, 1986 and 1991 Visible Minority Counts*

The visible minority population in Canada is growing. In 1981, this population numbered 1,131,830 accounting for 4.7% of the total Canadian population. By 1986, it had increased to 1,577,710 to account for 6.3% of Canadians. And by 1991, the visible minority population grew to 2,525,480 so that this population comprised 9.4% of the total Canadian population.

Figures 5a and 5b compare the percentage of the total population that were visible minorities for the three censuses at the Canada and provincial/territorial level. Figure 5b reveals that the presence of visible minorities varied considerably from province to province in all three census years. At one end of the country, in Newfoundland, less than 1% of the population was composed of visible minorities. At the other end, in British Columbia, the percentage increased from 8.4% in 1981 to 10.3% in 1986 to 14.2% in 1991. Ontario had the second highest representation rates in all three census years followed by Alberta.

Figure 5a: Representation of visible minorities in the total population, Canada, 1981, 1986, 1991

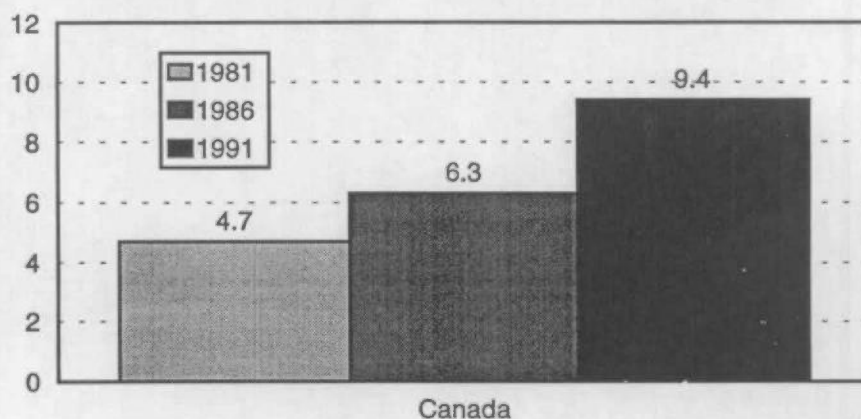
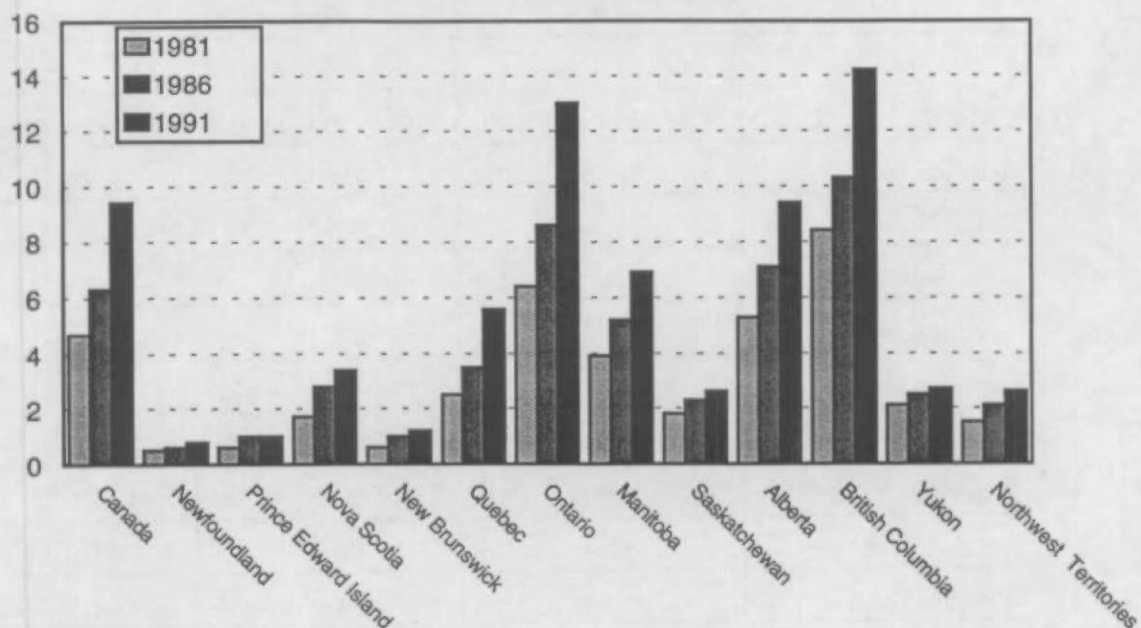


Figure 5b: Representation of visible minorities in the total population, Canada, provinces and territories, 1981, 1986, 1991



4.1 Distribution of Visible Minorities by Province

The visible minority populations in all three censuses were concentrated in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec with over 80% of the population living in these three provinces. (Table 11). The smallest concentrations were in the Atlantic provinces and in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

The distributions of the visible minority population by province remained relatively constant in the three census years. Ontario's share of the population increased from 48.2% in 1981 to 51.4% in 1991. The distribution decreased in all four western provinces in this same period but the decrease was small. British Columbia saw the largest decrease dropping from 20.1% in 1981 to 18.3% in 1991.

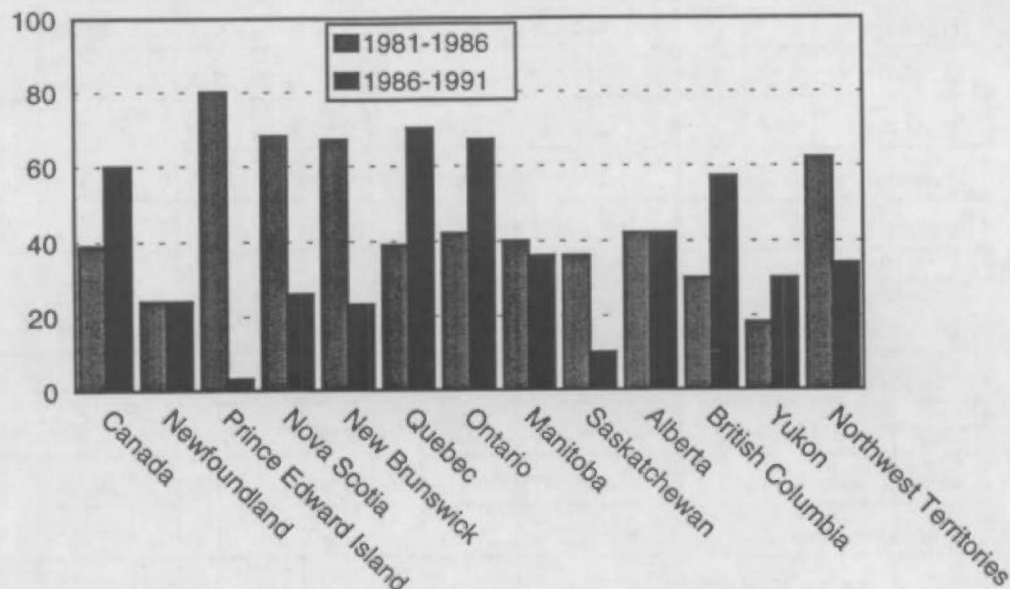
Table 11: Distribution of the visible minority population by province and territory, 1981, 1986, 1991

	1981		1986		1991	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CANADA	1,131,830	100.0	1,577,710	100.0	2,525,480	100.0
Newfoundland	2,755	0.2	3,415	0.2	4,240	0.2
Prince Edward Island	720	0.1	1,295	0.1	1,335	0.1
Nova Scotia	14,535	1.3	24,390	1.5	30,725	1.2
New Brunswick	4,360	0.4	7,265	0.5	8,940	0.4
Quebec	162,190	14.3	224,775	14.2	381,910	15.1
Ontario	545,660	48.2	775,245	49.1	1,297,605	51.4
Manitoba	39,115	3.5	54,755	3.5	74,330	2.9
Saskatchewan	17,095	1.5	23,325	1.5	25,710	1.0
Alberta	117,190	10.4	166,670	10.6	235,975	9.3
British Columbia	227,035	20.1	294,885	18.7	462,465	18.3
Yukon	495	--	585	--	760	--
Northwest Territories	675	0.1	1,095	0.1	1,470	0.1

Source: 1981, 1986, 1991 Censuses of Canada

In absolute numbers, the visible minority population increased in all provinces and territories between 1981 and 1986 and again between 1986 and 1991 (Figure 6). At the Canada level, the increase between 1986 and 1991 (60%) was higher than the growth between 1981 and 1986 (39%). Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia and Yukon followed the Canada level trend. In contrast, the rate of growth in the Maritime provinces and in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories was higher in the 1981 to 1986 period than between 1986 and 1991. Rates of growth in Newfoundland and Alberta were constant at 24% and 42%, respectively. Note the particularly large increase in the visible minority population of Prince Edward Island between 1981 and 1986 (80%) and the low growth rate between the next two censuses (3%).

Figure 6: Percentage increase in the visible minority population from 1981 to 1986 and from 1986 to 1991, Canada, provinces and territories



4.2 Analysis by Visible Minority Subgroup

Persons in the Chinese subgroup comprised about one-quarter of the visible minority population in all three censuses, the most numerous of the subgroups. Blacks and South Asians were the next largest groups. These three groups comprised about two-thirds of the total visible minority population in 1981, 1986 and again in 1991.

The Other Pacific Islanders subgroup was the smallest group in all three census years comprising less than 1% of the total visible minority population. The Korean subgroup was also small constituting about 2% of visible minorities.

Table 12: Distribution of the visible minority population by subgroup, 1981, 1986 and 1991

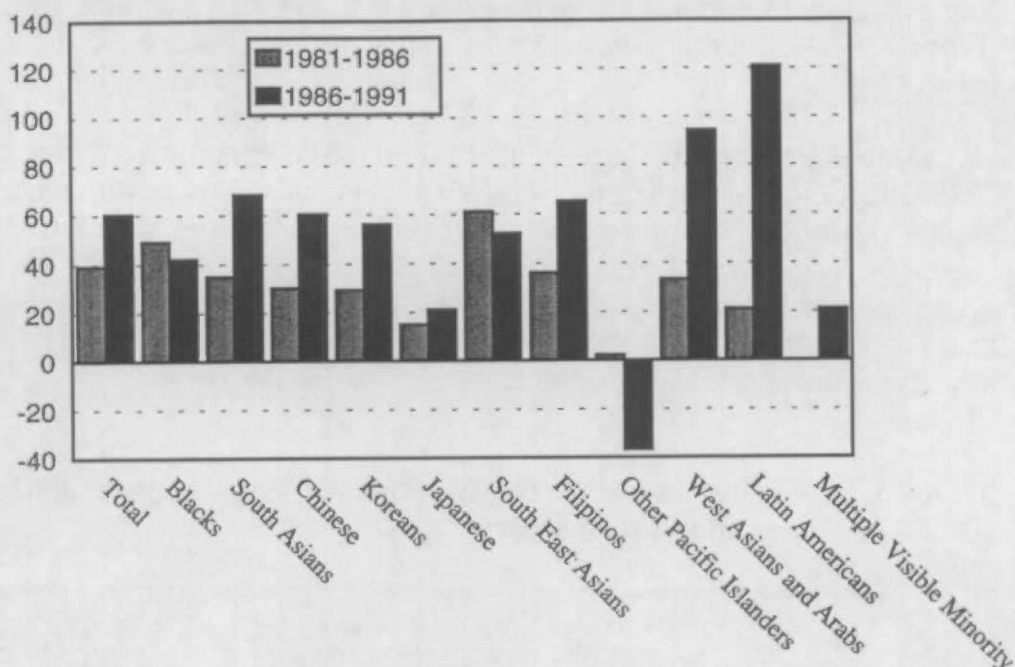
	1981		1986		1991	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
TOTAL	1,131,830	100.0	1,577,710	100.0	2,525,480	100.0
Blacks	239,455	21.2	355,600	22.5	504,290	20.0
South Asians	223,235	19.7	300,630	19.1	505,515	20.0
Chinese	299,920	26.5	390,640	24.8	626,435	24.8
Koreans	22,565	2.0	29,200	1.9	45,535	1.8
Japanese	46,060	4.1	52,900	3.4	63,860	2.5
South East Asians	53,910	4.8	86,945	5.5	132,415	5.2
Filipinos	75,485	6.7	102,365	6.5	169,150	6.7
Other Pacific Islanders	8,530	0.8	8,665	0.5	5,440	—
West Asians and Arabs	112,435	9.9	149,705	9.5	289,755	11.5
Latin Americans	50,230	4.4	60,975	3.9	134,535	5.3
Multiple Visible Minority	40,090	2.5	48,545	1.9

Source: 1981, 1986, 1991 Censuses of Canada

While increases were noted in all groups between 1981 and 1986, the most significant increase was in the South East Asian subgroup (61%). The smallest increases were in the Other Pacific Islander (2%) and Japanese (15%) groups. The movement of those of Indonesian origin from the Other Pacific Islander group in 1981 to the South East Asian group in 1986 affected the counts of these subgroups. Definitional changes such as this must be kept in mind when making comparisons of the counts produced from the three censuses. Section 4.3 of this report discusses this more fully.

As noted earlier, the overall increase between 1986 and 1991 in the visible minority population (60%) was higher than the growth between 1981 and 1986 (39%). With the exception of the Other Pacific Islander subgroup, increases were noted in each subgroup between 1986 and 1991 (Figure 7). The most notable gains in this period were in the Latin American (121%), West Asian and Arab (94%), and South Asian (68%) groups. The decrease in the Other Pacific Islander group was a result of a definitional change. Religion was used to identify South Asians who had reported an ethnic origin of Fijian or who were born in Fiji in 1991 (almost 5,000 such persons were identified).

Figure 7: Percentage change in the visible minority population from 1981 to 1986 and from 1986 to 1991 by subgroup



4.3 Components of Change

The earlier sections of this chapter have shown that the visible minority population in Canada increased from 1981 to 1986 and again, in the period between 1986 and 1991. It is reasonable to now explore the components that lead to this growth. This section looks at four factors that contributed to changes in the size of the visible minority population, namely, changes in definitions between censuses, changes in reporting patterns between censuses, a change in the target population enumerated in the 1991 Census and immigration levels. It is realized that these factors are not solely responsible for the growth of the visible minority population. Other factors (e.g., births, deaths, emigration) undoubtedly also played a role in the change in population counts.

4.3.1 Definitional changes

As discussed above, changes were made to the procedure by which the visible minority population was derived from one census to the next. These changes had some effect on the size of the population and must be considered in making comparisons between the

counts. In an attempt to quantify the effect these definitional changes had, the counts obtained by running the 1991 data through the 1986 derivation procedure and similarly, the 1986 data through the 1981 derivation were analyzed.

As Table 13 indicates, coupling the 1986 data with 1981 definition produced a count of 1,542,930 (Wright, 1989). The count based on the 1986 definition was 1,577,710. Expressing the difference between these two counts (34,780) as a percentage of the count using the 1981 definition yields 2.3% indicating that the effect of definitional changes is small.

At the subgroup level, the largest difference in the counts produced using the 1981 and 1986 definitions was in the Latin American subgroup where the difference is just over 28,000 (85.1%). This difference relates in part to changes in the Black and Latin American subgroup inclusions between 1981 and 1986. Also, since the 1981 ethnic origin question elicited single responses only and the notion of multiple visible minority was not introduced until 1986, the counts produced for many of the subgroups are actually higher using the 1981 definition than that of 1986.

Table 13: Visible minority counts obtained by applying 1981 and 1986 procedures to 1986 data

	1986 Count Using 1981 Derivation Procedure	1986 Count Using 1986 Derivation Procedure	Difference	Percentage Change from 1981
TOTAL	1,542,930	1,577,710	34,780	2.3%
Blacks	366,230	355,600	-10,630	-2.9%
South Asians	306,580	300,630	-5,950	-1.9%
Chinese	406,050	390,640	-15,410	-3.8%
Koreans	29,385	29,200	-185	-0.6%
Japanese	53,175	52,900	-275	-0.5%
South East Asians	84,640	86,945	2,305	2.7%
Filipinos	102,555	102,365	-190	-0.2%
Other Pacific Islanders	11,420	8,665	-2,755	-24.1%
West Asians and Arabs	149,955	149,705	-250	-0.2%
Latin Americans	32,945	60,975	28,030	85.1%
Multiple Visible Minority	...	40,090

Source: Wright (1989)

When the 1991 data were ran through the 1986 procedure, a count of 2,497,675 was obtained. This total is 27,805 lower than the count obtained using the 1991 derivation procedure. (See Table 14). The difference as a percentage of the actual count is 1.1% indicating that, again, the changes in the definitions between the two censuses had only a small effect.

Table 14: Visible minority counts obtained by applying 1986 and 1991 procedures to 1991 data

	1991 Count Using 1986 Derivation Procedure	1991 Count Using 1991 Derivation Procedure	Difference	Percentage Change
TOTAL	2,497,675	2,525,480	27,805	1.1%
Blacks	510,455	504,290	-6,165	-1.2%
South Asians	462,285	505,515	43,230	9.4%
Chinese	619,940	626,435	6,495	1.0%
Koreans	45,260	45,535	275	0.6%
Japanese	63,350	63,860	510	0.8%
South East Asians	131,630	132,415	785	0.6%
Filipinos	167,865	169,150	1,285	0.8%
Other Pacific Islanders	9,845	5,440	-4,405	-44.7%
West Asians and Arabs	282,520	289,755	7,235	2.6%
Latin Americans	135,365	134,535	-830	-0.6%
Multiple Visible Minority	69,160	48,545	-20,615	-29.8%

Source: Statistics Canada, Unpublished tabulations

When the actual 1991 counts are compared to those produced using the 1986 definition, the largest numerical differences are in the South Asian and the multiple visible minority subgroups. Increases in the South Asian group are due in part to an ability in 1991 to separate Blacks from South Asians in the Caribbean using the religion variable. The large percentage difference in the Other Pacific Islander subgroup results from using religion in 1991 to distinguish South Asians from Other Pacific Islanders in Fiji.

4.3.2 Changes in reporting patterns

While difficult to quantify, it is realized that there are certain changes in respondent reporting patterns from one census to the next which affect the generation of data and the ability to compare data between censuses. Some of these changes result from question

wording differences while others relate to the environmental climate at the time of the census. Changes in respondents' understanding or views about ethnic origin also affect the measurement of this population. Such factors as awareness of family background or length of time since immigration can affect responses to the ethnic origin question, as can confusion with other concepts such as nationality, cultural identity, etc..

The 1986 encouragement of reporting of multiple ethnic origins, the inclusion of the mark-in circle for "Black" and the addition of visible minority origins as examples undoubtedly accounted for part of the increase in the visible minority population between 1981 and 1986. The following tables demonstrate the increased reporting of multiple responses and of the "Black" response that occurred on the 1986 and 1991 Censuses as compared to responses in 1981.

Table 15: Incidence of single and multiple reporting to the Census ethnic origin question, 1981, 1986, 1991

	Total Responses	Percentage Single Responses	Percentage Multiple Responses
1981			
Total population	24,083,500	88.4%	11.6%
Visible minorities	1,131,830	94.7%	5.3%
1986			
Total population	25,022,005	72.1%	27.9%
Visible minorities	1,577,710	82.0%	18.0%
1991			
Total population	26,994,040	71.1%	28.9%
Visible minorities	2,525,480	83.8%	16.2%

As the table indicates, the number of Canadians providing multiple responses to the ethnic origin question increased substantially between 1981 and 1986 - from 11.6%⁹ of the population to 27.9%. In 1991, 28.9% reported more than one ethnic origin; of these, 17% reported having two origins, 7% gave three origins and 5% reported four or more ethnic origins.

In 1981, 5.3% of the visible minority population provided a multiple response to the ethnic origin question. The 1986 and 1991 percentages were substantially higher at 18.0% and 16.2% respectively.

⁹ In the 1981 Census, British-only multiples (e.g., English and Welsh) were treated as a single response in output tabulations. With this approach, the 7.6% of the population provided a multiple response. They have been included with the multiple responses here so that comparisons with the 1986 and 1991 data can be made.

Table 16 demonstrates the large increase in the reporting of "Black" that accompanied the inclusion of a mark-in circle on the 1986 and 1991 Census questionnaires.

Table 16: Incidence of reporting of "Black" to the Census ethnic origin question, 1981, 1986, 1991

	Number of Persons Reporting "Black"
1981 Census	30,975
1986 Census	260,335
1991 Census	366,625

4.3.3 The target population in 1991

In 1991, for the first time, the census population universe included non-permanent residents of Canada. Non-permanent residents include:

- persons claiming refugee status in Canada;
- persons in Canada who hold a student authorization;
- persons in Canada who hold an employment authorization; and
- persons in Canada who hold a Minister's permit.

As this expanded target population affected the derived counts of visible minorities from the 1991 Census, it should be considered in making comparisons of data from the 1991 Census with previous censuses. There were 223,410 non-permanent residents counted in the 1991 Census of whom 155,710 (69.7%) were members of a visible minority group.

Table 17 indicates that 16.4% of the increase in the visible minority population between 1986 and 1991 can be accounted for by the inclusion of non-permanent residents in the 1991 Census. The percentage for the Japanese subgroup is especially high at 63.2%.

Table 17: Percentage of change between the 1986 and 1991 visible minority counts accounted for by the inclusion of non-permanent residents

	Total change between 1986 and 1991	Non-permanent residents	% accounted for by non-permanent residents being included
Total	947,770	155,7101	16.4%
Blacks	148,690	26,840	18.1%
South Asians	204,885	29,685	14.5%
Chinese	235,795	28,425	12.1%
Koreans	16,335	2,345	14.4%
Japanese	10,960	6,925	63.2%
South East Asians	45,470	3,985	8.8%
Filipinos	66,785	14,920	22.3%
Other Pacific Islanders	-3,225	270	... ¹⁰
West Asians and Arabs	140,050	22,255	15.9%
Latin Americans	73,560	18,470	25.1%
Multiple Visible Minority	8,455	1,595	18.9%

4.3.4 Immigration

Changes to Canadian immigration policies in the 1960s have affected the ethnic origins of arriving immigrants. During the early 1900s and following the Second World War, immigrants came from Western and Eastern Europe, and from the Scandinavian countries. In the 1960s they 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. The changes in the source countries of recent immigrants has altered the ethnic composition of Canada and has increased the size of the visible minority population. The tables that follow indicate the role immigration has played in the growth of visible minorities in Canada.

¹⁰ The decrease in the Other Pacific Islander subgroup is the result of a definitional change.

Table 18 shows the distribution of the 1986 visible minority population by non-immigrant and immigrant¹¹ with the immigrant population being disaggregated by period of immigration.

Table 18: 1986 visible minority population showing the non-immigrant population and the immigrant population by period of immigration

	Total	Non-Immigrant Population	Immigrant Population		
			Immigrated before 1981	Immigrated in 1981	Immigrated 1982 to 1986 ¹²
Total	1,577,710	504,150	802,770	59,090	211,700
Blacks	355,600	129,610	188,010	8,225	29,745
South Asians	300,630	85,815	168,350	10,795	35,675
Chinese	390,640	116,125	201,680	17,790	55,040
Koreans	29,200	6,675	17,260	1,300	3,960
Japanese	52,900	40,745	10,045	640	1,470
South East Asians	86,945	14,465	39,290	6,535	26,655
Filipinos	102,365	25,740	58,195	4,850	13,585
Other Pacific Islanders	8,665	3,130	4,610	250	670
West Asians and Arabs	149,705	57,170	66,795	4,920	20,815
Latin Americans	60,975	11,635	27,660	2,340	19,345
Multiple Visible Minority	40,090	13,050	20,860	1,440	4,740

The following table (Table 19) indicates the percentage of change in the visible minority population between 1981 and 1986 that can be accounted for by immigration. It should be noted that the number of immigrants arriving in 1981 after the time of the Census was estimated. Ideally, in analysing the effect of immigration on the growth rate between the 1981 and 1986 Censuses, immigration between that time period (i.e. between June, 1981 and June, 1986) should be considered. However, as the census collects data on the year of immigration only (month is not collected), it was not possible to obtain a count of the number immigrants that arrived from June, 1981 to the end of the year. In calculating

¹¹ In the 1981 and 1986 Censuses, the immigrant population was defined as those persons who were not Canadian citizens by birth. In the 1991 Census, a direct question was used to identify the immigrant population as the census universe was expanded to include refugee claimants and holders of employment and student authorizations and Minister's permits.

¹² Includes the first five months only of 1986.

the percentage accounted for by immigration, it was assumed that seven-twelfths of the total immigrants that came to Canada in 1981 arrived in the period from June to December.

Table 19: Percentage of change between the 1981 and 1986 visible minority counts accounted for by immigration

	Total Change Between 1981 and 1986	Number of Immigrants June 1981 - June 1986¹³	Percentage Accounted for by Immigration
Total	445,880	246,170	55.2%
Blacks	116,145	34,545	29.7%
South Asians	77,395	41,960	54.2%
Chinese	90,720	65,420	72.1%
Koreans	6,635	4,720	71.1%
Japanese	6,840	1,845	27.0%
South East Asians	33,035	30,465	92.2%
Filipinos	26,880	16,415	61.1%
Other Pacific Islanders	135	815	...
West Asians and Arabs	37,270	23,685	63.5%
Latin Americans	10,745	20,710	...
Multiple Visible Minority	...	5,580	...

Overall, immigration between June, 1981 and June, 1986 accounts for over half (55.2%) of the change in the size of the visible minority population between 1981 and 1986. The percentage is highest for South East Asians at 92.2%. The percentage is also high for the Chinese (72.1%) and Korean (71.1%) subgroups. Immigration accounts for only 27.0% of the increase for the Japanese subgroup and 29.7% for the Black subgroup.

Table 20 shows the distribution of the 1991 visible minority population by non-immigrant and immigrant status. The immigrant population disaggregated by period of immigration is also included.

¹³ The number of immigrants that arrived in Canada between June, 1981 and the end of December, 1981 was calculated by taking seven-twelfths of the total immigration for 1981.

Table 20: 1991 visible minority population showing the non-immigrant population and the immigrant population by period of immigration

	Total	Non-Immigrant Population	Immigrant Population		
			Immigrated before 1986	Immigrated in 1986	Immigrated 1987 to 1991 ¹⁴
Total	2,525,480	749,745	1,036,595	61,990	521,440
Blacks	504,290	192,955	210,310	10,670	63,510
South Asians	505,515	140,240	230,180	13,265	92,150
Chinese	626,435	163,465	266,870	12,115	155,550
Koreans	45,535	9,915	22,180	1,075	10,025
Japanese	63,860	44,670	10,150	205	1,920
South East Asians	132,415	24,600	67,695	5,625	30,505
Filipinos	169,150	38,210	73,140	3,635	39,250
Other Pacific Islanders	5,440	2,745	1,975	90	360
West Asians and Arabs	289,755	89,545	91,915	7,565	78,470
Latin Americans	134,535	22,480	42,770	6,825	43,995
Multiple Visible Minority	48,545	20,920	19,435	905	5,690

Table 21 indicates the percentage of change in the visible minority population between 1986 and 1991 that can be accounted for by immigration.

¹⁴ Includes the first five months only of 1991.

Table 21: Percentage of change between the 1986 and 1991 visible minority counts accounted for by immigration

	Total Change Between 1986 and 1991	Number of Immigrants Between June, 1986 and June, 1991¹⁵	Percentage Accounted for by Immigration
Total	947,770	557,600	58.8%
Blacks	148,690	69,735	46.9%
South Asians	204,885	99,890	48.8%
Chinese	235,795	162,615	69.0%
Koreans	16,335	10,650	65.2%
Japanese	10,960	2,040	18.6%
South East Asians	45,470	33,785	74.3%
Filipinos	66,785	41,370	61.9%
Other Pacific Islanders	-3,225	415	... ¹⁶
West Asians and Arabs	140,050	82,885	59.2%
Latin Americans	73,560	47,975	65.2%
Multiple Visible Minority	8,455	6,220	73.6%

Immigration accounted for 58.8% of the growth in the visible minority population between the 1986 and 1991 Censuses. If this is added to the 16.4% that was contributed by the inclusion of non-permanent residents, then three-quarters (75.2%) of the population growth is accounted for. (Note that as above, the number of immigrants arriving between June, 1986 and the end of that year was estimated by taking seven-twelfths of the total immigration in 1986.)

As between 1981 and 1986, immigration played a key role in the growth of the South East Asian population accounting for 74.3% of the growth. In contrast, immigration from Japan continued to be low with only 2,040 immigrants of Japanese origin arriving between 1986 and 1991. But while the percentage accounted for by immigration for the Japanese group is small (18.6%), the inclusion of non-permanent residents in the 1991 Census explained 63.2% so that a total of 81.8% of the growth of this population can be accounted for.

¹⁵ The number of immigrants that arrived in Canada between June, 1986 and the end of December, 1986 was calculated by taking seven-twelfths of the total immigration for 1986.

¹⁶ The decrease in the Other Pacific Islander subgroup is the result of a definitional change.

5.0 Conclusion

Estimates of the visible minority population in Canada have, to date, relied primarily on responses to the ethnic origin question on the census with responses to the place of birth, mother tongue and religion questions also being used in the derivation process. Boxhill cautions that "... *the identification of the visible minority sub-population from census data is affected by respondent willingness to report in certain ways or, alternatively, a respondent's decision to choose from the simplest and most convenient options ...*". As he so aptly points out, persons born in Canada who, by appearance, might be identified as Chinese would not be included in the visible minority population if they reported an ethnic origin of Canadian and an English mother tongue. No amount of statistical manipulation would lead to their identification for inclusion.

As we look to the 1996 Census, the possibility of including a question that would allow for the direct identification of Canada's visible minority population is being considered. While the inclusion of such a question would lead to an identification of this population which is more consistent with the requirements of the *Employment Equity Act*, the decision to include it must weigh a number of factors including the potential danger of asking a sensitive question on a national survey vehicle.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abella, Rosalie Silberman

Equality in Employment A Royal Commission Report, Ministry of Supply and Services, Ottawa, 1984.

Boxhill, Wally

Limitations to the Use of Ethnic Origin Data to Quantify Visible Minorities in Canada, (Catalogue No. 99-957), Statistics Canada, Ottawa, 1984.

Boxhill, Wally

Making the Tough Choices in Using Census Data to Count Visible Minorities in Canada, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, 1990.

Boxhill, Wally

Approaches to the Collection of Data on Visible Minorities in Canada: A Review and Commentary, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, 1991.

Coulter, J. and A. Furrie

Employment Equity Definitions of Visible Minorities, Aboriginal People and Persons with Disabilities, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, 1989.

Employment and Immigration Canada,

Employment Equity Act, Regulations and Schedules, Minister of Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, 1986.

Interdepartmental Working Group on Employment Equity Data (IWGEED),

Women, Visible Minorities, Aboriginal Peoples and Persons With Disabilities... The 1991 Employment Equity Definitions, Ottawa, 1993.

Logan, Ronald

"Immigration During the 1980s", Canadian Social Trends, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Catalogue 11-008E, Spring 1991, pp. 10-14.

Statistics Canada,

Population, Ethnic Origin, Minister of Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, Catalogue 92-911, 1984.

Statistics Canada,

Ethnicity, Immigration and Citizenship, The Nation, Minister of Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, Catalogue 93-109, 1989.

Statistics Canada,

1991 Census Dictionary, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology, Ottawa, Catalogue 92-301, 1992.

