



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, October 29, 2007**

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## **Study: Economic integration of immigrants' children**

1996 to 2004

Much has been written about the widening gap in earnings and low-income rates between recent immigrants to Canada and their Canadian-born counterparts. However, the challenges associated with the integration of immigrants often extend beyond the first generation.

This study, published today in the October 2007 edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, focuses on second-generation Canadians aged 17 to 29—young men and women born in Canada to two immigrant parents between 1967 and 1982.

Using data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, the study compares, over a six-year period (either 1996 to 2001 or 1999 to 2004), the earnings of these second-generation Canadians who have a strong labour force attachment to those of their peers with Canadian-born parents. It also compares the two groups' family characteristics, educational attainment and geographical distribution, and the extent to which these factors may lead to differences in earnings.

Taking education levels into account, the study found that young women with two immigrant parents had significantly higher hourly and annual earnings than young women with Canadian-born parents during the entire six-year period.

Among young men, on the other hand, there was little evidence of such a second-generation earnings advantage. In fact, everything else being equal, some visible minority men with two immigrant parents appeared to have a significant disadvantage in earnings compared to their peers with Canadian-born parents.

In the case of women, roughly half of their advantage in hourly earnings was due to geographic distribution. Three-quarters of young Canadians with two immigrant parents were concentrated in Ontario and British Columbia, and more than three-quarters lived in large urban centres. In contrast, half of their counterparts with Canadian-born parents lived in less economically prosperous regions, such as Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. About 60% lived in smaller cities, small towns and rural areas.

A large part of the annual earnings advantage among young women with two immigrant parents was

also because they were less likely to have been married or had children.

By the end of the six-year period when they had reached the ages of 22 to 34, less than half of women with two immigrant parents had been married. Only a third had given birth to, adopted, or raised children. In contrast, over 60% of those with Canadian-born parents had been married, and close to half had had children.

The situation was quite different for young second-generation men. The study found little evidence of an advantage in hourly or annual earnings relative to their third- and higher-generation male counterparts.

In fact, generalizations about young second-generation men were difficult to make since they tended to be more heterogeneous in terms of earnings than their female counterparts.

Part of the extra heterogeneity arose because visible minority status had no bearing on women's earnings, but it had a large impact on those of men.

The study found that among young men born in Canada to two immigrant parents, visible minorities fared markedly worse. Everything else being equal, their earnings were significantly lower than those of young men with Canadian-born parents.

The earnings of second-generation men who were not visible minorities, on the other hand, were no different from those of men with Canadian-born parents. In fact, the study found some evidence suggesting that the earnings of those with one immigrant parent might be higher.

### **Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3889.**

The article, "Economic integration of immigrants' children", is now available in the October 2007 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 8, no. 10 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Boris Palameta (613-237-2945; [bpalameta@srdc.org](mailto:bpalameta@srdc.org)), Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, or Geneviève Clavet (613-951-0615; [genevieve.clavet@statcan.ca](mailto:genevieve.clavet@statcan.ca)), Income Statistics Division. ■

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## Study: Frequency of contact between separated fathers and their children

1994 to 1997

The period immediately following separation is crucial for the long-term contact between fathers and their children with whom they no longer live, according to a new study published recently in the *Journal of Family Issues*.

Dads who remained closely involved with their children in the first few months following separation had a much greater chance of remaining so later on, the study showed.

The study, conducted through Statistics Canada's Research Data Centre program, examined how children's contact with their "non-resident fathers" evolved over a two-year period. It used data from cycles 1 and 2 of the National Longitudinal Survey on Children and Youth, and focused on children up to the age of 11 who were living with their mother in 1994/1995, the start of the study period.

At that point, almost one-half of children saw their father frequently: 27% saw him at least every week, while 22% saw him every two weeks. Almost one-third saw their father monthly, for holidays only or irregularly. The remainder (19%) had no paternal visits at all, though some had contact by phone or mail.

Two years later, the frequency of paternal visits had changed for about half of the children. Although some saw more of their fathers and some less, there was a pattern. The study showed that fathers who visited their children regularly seldom lost contact, and fathers who were "absent" in 1994/1995 rarely began regular visits afterwards.

Many factors can affect visit frequency. This study focused on a much-debated one among specialists: new family commitments taken on by separated parents.

The majority of fathers and mothers form new unions in the years following separation, often with individuals who also have children from an earlier union. Close to half of these new couples go on to have a child together.

Early research found that fathers who remarried were less involved with non-resident children than those who did not. More recent studies suggest that this reduced contact is due to new paternal responsibilities rather than remarriage as such. Fathers who start second families invest in the children with whom they live at the expense of those with whom they no longer live.

This new study showed that the timing of new unions after separation is important. The earlier separated fathers entered a new union, the less frequently they saw their children later on. In particular, non-resident fathers who began a new union within two months of separation had significantly less contact with children than those who did not.

In other words, new unions reduce visit frequency if they are formed before fathers and children have established the structure of their post-separation relationship. Fathers' new unions do not so much reduce visitation once established as lead to less contact from the start, which may in turn affect the frequency of contacts in the long term.

As in other research, the study found an even stronger negative link between father-child contact and the mother's subsequent remarriage.

The findings also supported a strong positive link, already identified in other research, between child support payments and the frequency of visits. Fathers who invest time in their children are also more inclined to invest money and other resources.

Overall, the study suggested that fathers who were involved in their non-resident children's lives after separation did not abandon them, whatever the family commitments they later took on.

**Note:** The analysis was carried out at the Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics, Quebec's Research Data Centre. The Research Data Centre program is the result of a partnership between Statistics Canada, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and Canadian university consortia, and aims to strengthen Canada's social research capacity.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Heather Juby (514-343-2090 ext. 8; [heather.juby@umontreal.ca](mailto:heather.juby@umontreal.ca)), Quebec Research Data Centre.

The article, "Nonresident Fathers and Children: Parents' New Unions and Frequency of Contact", published in the *Journal of Family Issues*, 2007, Vol. 28, no. 9, is available free at [www.ciqss.umontreal.ca/1220.pdf](http://www.ciqss.umontreal.ca/1220.pdf).

For more information about the Research Data Centre program, contact Gustave Goldmann (613-951-1472), Research Data Centre program. ■

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## **Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports**

September 2007

For the 16th consecutive month, aircraft take-offs and landings at Canadian airports with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers and flight service stations increased in September from September 2006. These 95 airports reported 557,020 movements in September compared with 509,267 movements at 96 airports in September 2006, an increase of 9.4% (+47,753 movements).

Itinerant movements (flights from one airport to another) increased 4.1% (+15,201 movements) in September compared with September 2006.

Local movements (flights that remain in the vicinity of the airport) increased 23.5% (+32,552 movements) in September compared with September 2006.

The September 2007 issue of *Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations*, Vol. 1, no. 9 (51-007-XWE, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 401-0007 to 401-0020.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; [transportationstatistics@statcan.ca](mailto:transportationstatistics@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## New products

**Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire**, August 2007,  
Vol. 3, no. 8  
**Catalogue number 41-019-XWE**  
(free).

**Aircraft Movement Statistics: NAV CANADA Towers and Flight Service Stations**, September 2007, Vol. 1,  
no. 9  
**Catalogue number 51-007-XWE**  
(free).

**Perspectives on Labour and Income**, Vol. 8, no. 10  
**Catalogue number 75-001-XWE**  
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**The Daily**
  
 Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997  
For release at 8:30 a.m.

**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Discusses the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- Help-wanted index, May 1997 5
- Structure-Employment Survey 3
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production, April 1997 12

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