

A Statistical Profile of Government-Assisted Refugees

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I. INTRODUCTION

Canada is a signatory of the United Nations' 1951 *Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and its 1967 Protocol. The 1951 United Nations Convention defines a refugee as "a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside his country of nationality . . . and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it." In keeping with its humanitarian traditions and international commitments, Canada accepts between 20,000 and 30,000 Convention refugees and other displaced persons each year. Roughly half of these refugees are selected abroad for resettlement in Canada; the others are successful refugee claimants, who arrived in Canada seeking protection and get their refugee claims approved by the Immigration and Refugee Board¹ (IRB).

Many refugees who arrive in Canada face issues of acculturation and barriers to labour market integration. They may initially face limited employment opportunities due to their lack of Canadian work experience and social networks. In addition to these hurdles, numerous refugees have no or insufficient knowledge of both official languages (and must consequently learn English or French) and are lacking occupational skills. They often have reception and settlement needs beyond those of other immigrant groups. In particular, refugees may be traumatized by their previous experiences and often arrive alone, have no connection with their new community, and, therefore, have no one to assist them in the early stages of their settlement.

While Canada has successfully provided protection for refugees, the government continues to pursue ways to enhance existing settlement and integration programs for immigrants. In 2001 Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) commissioned the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC) to identify potential new program ideas that could help refugees achieve a successful integration into the Canadian society and that could be evaluated independently and rigorously via demonstration projects. The Department indicated a particular interest for one particular category of refugees — government-assisted refugees.² In June 2001, SRDC submitted to CIC a report called *Promising Interventions to Improve the Integration of Government-Assisted Refugees Into the Canadian Labour Market*. The SRDC report suggested four approaches to language skills acquisition that could improve the labour market outcomes of government-assisted refugees in the years following their arrival in Canada. SRDC has been asked to pursue the developmental work on some of the proposed ideas.

One essential first step towards the development of any large-scale demonstration project is the need to collect some basic information about the target population from which participants will be selected. That is the purpose of this paper.

¹ The Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) was created in 1989 by an Act of the Canadian Parliament. IRB's mission is to "to make well-reasoned decisions on immigration and refugee matters, efficiently, fairly, and in accordance with the law" on behalf of all Canadians (http://www.irb.gc.ca/about/background/index_e.stm).

² Government-assisted refugees are individuals who qualify as Convention refugees under the *Immigration Act* or as members of a class designated pursuant to Section 6.3 of the Act and selected from abroad to resettle in Canada. These individuals are eligible for federal government assistance — short-term financial benefits and services — to help them settle in their new country.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section II describes the main data sources that will be used to draw the statistical profile of government-assisted refugees. Section III provides a description of the socio-economic characteristics of government-assisted refugees (hereafter termed “GARs”) and examines their employment experience using information on labour market outcomes such as employment earnings, self-employment, and receipt of Employment Insurance (EI) and social assistance. Section IV discusses the potential barriers to employment experienced by refugees. The final section provides a summary.

II. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY, METHODOLOGY, AND DATA SOURCES

It is difficult to find statistical information or evaluation studies that focus specifically on GARs since most reports combine GARs with the overall refugee or immigrant population. Information from *Facts and Figures 2000: Immigrant Overview* (Citizen and Immigration Canada, 2000b) demonstrates that refugees are not a homogenous group and have a broad range of socio-economic characteristics that may affect their integration into the Canadian labour market.

This report will draw mainly on two data sources.

- The **Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS)**, which contains information collected from the immigrant visa and record of landing. It will be used to describe characteristics of GARs at the time of landing, such as country of origin, level of education, self-reported knowledge of one of Canada’s official languages, and Canadian destination.
- The **Longitudinal Immigrant Database (IMDB)**, constructed by CIC and Statistics Canada, combines information from LIDS and from the T1 General returns to provide longitudinal information on immigrants who landed in Canada since 1980 in order to support research on immigration. The IMDB is updated annually and currently reports tax information up to 1998. To simplify analyses using the IMDB, GARs who were less than 18 years of age at landing were excluded, as they were expected to not file a tax return or to file a return reporting very low employment earnings, since they were less likely to participate in the labour market. This data source will be used to provide information on selected economic outcomes of GARs in the years following their arrival in Canada.

Using simple cross-tabulations, this report describes selected characteristics of GARs at landing, as well as information about their employment earnings, and income in the years following their arrival. For the most part, the analysis is limited to simple descriptions based on the information provided by the administrative records.

The difference in labour force experiences motivates us to present separate results, where appropriate, for male and female GARs. This is especially important here because of the very diverse camp and resettlement experiences of male and female GARs. Female GARs are particularly vulnerable in any GAR population; cultural and traditional barriers may inhibit refugee women’s access to security and other essential services.

Analytical Issues

While studies based on the information on the IMDB have made significant contributions to research on immigration, readers should be aware of several limitations and qualifications that may affect this study.

- The composition of cohorts within each taxation year is subject to variation over time, since the IMDB links landing records and tax records, and not all members of each landing year (cohort) have filed a tax return for every year recorded in the IMDB. Consequently, the information on the IMDB may not represent the general refugee and immigrant population. One CIC analysis investigating the representativeness of the IMDB sample found that two out of three immigrants, 18 years of age or older at landing, filed a return. An analysis by admission class shows that the lowest capture rate is in the family reunification (63 per cent), and the highest is for refugees (75 per cent). Furthermore, the IMDB was found to report data on about 55 per cent of all immigrants who landed between 1980 and 1995, and the characteristics of the IMDB sample reflected closely the landed population, so conclusions can be drawn from the IMDB sample and generalized to the overall immigrant population. In short, the researchers concluded that representativeness was not a problem. This issue will not be explored further in this report. We simply accept the findings from these earlier investigations. (See technical annex in Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 1998b, for a more detailed discussion about the coverage of the IMDB.)
- Several studies using the IMDB commonly report average annual income figures (employment earnings, EI benefits, and social assistance payments) only for taxfilers who reported the specific source of income. For example, in the 1998 tax year the average employment earnings for taxfilers who landed in 1995 and who had employment earnings is \$16,691. For other tax years, however, the group of taxfilers used to calculate the average annual employment earnings will vary, as this method relies on who was employed in the taxation year. This type of analysis may incorrectly estimate the real change over time, as averages were not calculated for a common group of taxfilers (or a cohort analysis). For example, in economically bad years, when high earners may be more likely to be employed, the average employment earnings may be artificially inflated when compared with other years.

Ideally, the average annual income figures would be reported for all labour force participants in the cohort (e.g. average employment earnings for GARs in the landing year, using zeros for individuals who did not report employment earnings). While this is possible, it would, however, be difficult to implement this type of measurement in this paper since results would be inconsistent with previous studies and the average numbers would make little sense in several instances (e.g. self-employment earnings, EI benefits). Therefore, average annual income figures will be reported only for taxfilers who reported income from that specific source.

- This study does not consider the economic conditions in Canada at the time of the data. Thus, the comparison and interpretation of results across different years and economic conditions presented in this report need to be confined within these limits.

- The 1990 Goods and Services Tax (GST)³ rebate and 1993 Child Tax Benefit (CTB) that were introduced and made available to low income individuals provided a financial incentive to file a tax return. Thus, this may have increased the number of taxfilers with low earnings and, consequently, reduced the average employment earnings observed in the 1990s.
- The IMDB reports information on individual immigrants. Looking at social assistance payments for individuals may be misleading because entitlement to social assistance payments is defined for the case or household. In a two-parent family, only one adult reports the social assistance payment, but it can be either the husband or wife. Accordingly, we need to be conscious of this qualification when we analyze the use of social assistance and the amount of benefits received from data on the IMDB.

III. PROFILE OF GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED REFUGEES

Unlike most immigrants who plan and choose to leave their home countries in search of better living conditions, GARs flee their countries to escape persecution or danger and seek protection in a foreign country.

Many GARs who come to Canada may have experienced trauma in their own countries and lived for a length of time in refugee camps, where conditions have been described by former residents as “horrificing.” In addition, many GARs, who find themselves uprooted suddenly from their homes, are often not prepared both psychologically and materially for what will likely be a long-term displacement. Many will end up living in refugee camps for considerable periods.⁴

In co-operation with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), Canada accepts GARs who are identified by UNHCR as eligible refugees and for whom resettlement in another country is the only viable option. This selection process can take a long time; however, once selected, GARs usually leave quickly for Canada, and often the International Organization of Migration makes the necessary travel arrangements.⁵ Often GARs know very little about Canada or what awaits them; many simply hope for a better life, free of hostilities.

A. Number of Refugees Admitted to Canada

Since 1980, 3,690,360 refugees and immigrants have settled in Canada. Most immigrants, approximately 45 per cent, were selected for their “economic” contributions, which comprised skilled workers, entrepreneurs, self-employed individuals, and investors (1,670,737). Thirty-six per cent of newcomers to Canada were in the family class⁶ (1,334,360). About 14 per cent of all immigrants were refugees (534,483), and less than 5 per cent belonged to other immigrant groups⁷ (150,780).

³The GST is known as the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland, which is a combination of the GST and provincial sales tax.

⁴Abu-Laban, Derwing, Krahn, Mulder, and Wilkinson (1999) found that one in three refugees in Alberta spent time in a refugee camp. Each of these individuals stayed in camps, on average, for 37 months.

⁵The Government of Canada loans refugees money for travel and landing fees and expects refugees to repay this loan with interest over time.

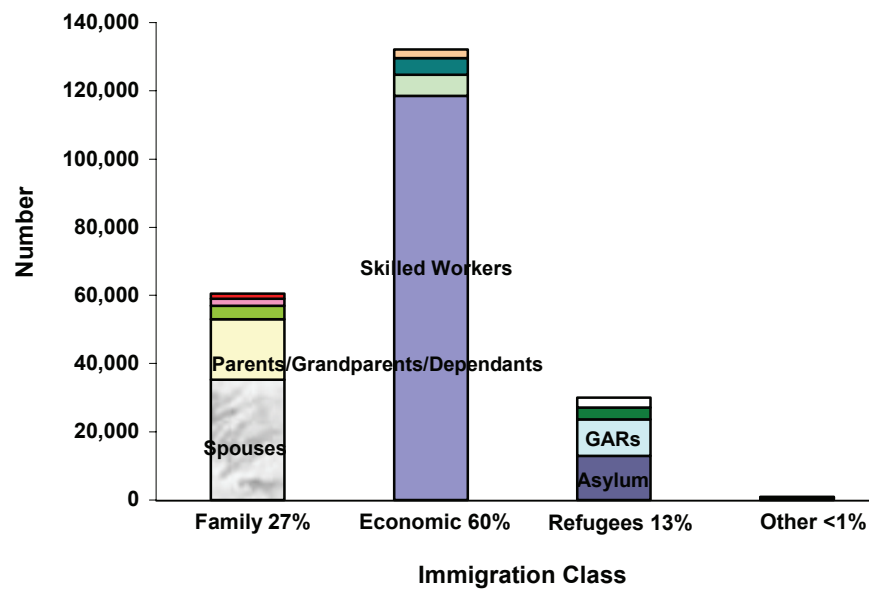
⁶Close family members sponsored by a Canadian citizen or resident.

⁷The “other” class included retirees, live-in caregivers, refugees with a deferred removal order and post determination status, and provincial/territorial nominees.

The refugee class includes individuals selected for resettlement in the following groups: (1) government-assisted, (2) privately sponsored, (3) landed in Canada and determined as Convention refugees (also referred to as inland refugees or asylum refugees), and (4) dependants of refugees abroad.⁸ The highest percentage of refugees arriving in Canada since 1980 were government-assisted (42 per cent or 226,387), followed by privately sponsored (30 per cent or 161,510), landed in Canada (23 per cent or 123,584), and dependants abroad (less than 5 per cent or 23,002).

Figure 1 shows that in the year 2000, of the 227,209 immigrants who settled in Canada, 60 per cent were admitted in the economic class, 27 per cent in the family class, and 13 per cent in the refugee class. Of the 30,033 refugees who arrived in Canada in 2000, approximately 43 per cent were landed in Canada refugees. The second largest group was government-assisted refugees at 35 per cent. Twelve per cent were dependants of refugees abroad, and ten per cent were privately sponsored refugees.

Figure 1: Immigration By Category, 2000



Government-assisted refugees are refugees selected abroad to resettle in Canada with help from the federal government. This class comprises refugees who are sponsored by the government as well as those assisted by private sponsors.⁹ The Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) is the main federal government program intended for this group of refugees and offers a number of initial essential services during the first 4 to 6 weeks after arriving in

⁸This category of refugees was recognized by the Immigration and Refugee Board in 1993.

⁹The federal government and a private group can provide a Joint Assistance Sponsorship (JAS) for disadvantaged persons who would otherwise not be eligible because of their special needs and circumstances. The federal government provides the financial assistance, and the private group provides emotional assistance and mentoring. People who could be considered for JAS include individuals in the Women at Risk program (for female refugees seeking resettlement in Canada), victims of trauma or torture, persons with an unusual family size or configuration, persons who have been in refugee camps for extended periods, and persons with certain medical conditions that make them ineligible for admission to Canada.

Canada,¹⁰ and basic income support during the first year after landing or until the refugee becomes self-sufficient, whichever occurs first.

Privately sponsored refugees include persons who are also selected abroad and resettled in Canada with assistance from the sponsorship of a private group. The sponsoring group commits to provide the sponsored refugee with basic assistance in the form of accommodation, clothing, food and settlement assistance for up to 12 months (and possibly up to 24 months in some exceptional cases).

Refugees landed in Canada include persons who arrived in Canada and made a claim for Convention Refugee status and are later determined eligible by the Immigration and Refugee Board and granted permission to apply for permanent residence in Canada. This group also includes refugees given permanent residence after arriving in Canada on a Minister's permit (Canadian Council for Refugees, 1998).

Dependants of refugees abroad include immediate family members of refugees who landed in Canada, mostly spouses and dependant children, who are not in Canada.

B. Number of Government-Assisted Refugees Admitted to Canada

A total of 226,387 government-assisted refugees made Canada their new home between 1980 and 2000. Figure 2 illustrates the annual number of GARs resettling in Canada since 1980. It also shows the number of male and female GARs who arrived during this period. The figure illustrates three main points:

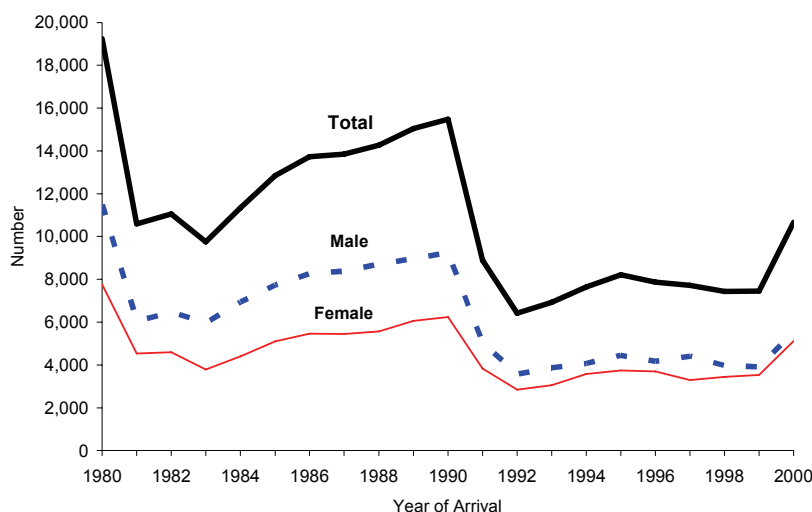
1. The number of GARs resettling in Canada has decreased since the early 1980s — the average annual number of refugees arriving in Canada was about 13,000 in the 1980s and 8,400 in the 1990s.
2. Before 1990 more male GARs were arriving in Canada, but more recently a similar number of males and females have made Canada their new home annually.
3. The sudden jump in the number of GARs in 2000 is due to the inclusion of the Kosovar refugees who arrived in 1999 as part of a special movement, and who obtained permanent residence status in 2000.¹¹

In this section, we examine selected demographic and socio-economic characteristics of GARs using data from LIDS. GARs' human capital and personal characteristics, such as gender, age, education, and language skills at landing, have been found to be important factors in their economic and social integration into Canadian society. The next section will examine GARs' economic performance using information from the IMDB and how selected characteristics affect their economic outcomes.

¹⁰These services include port of entry reception, arrangement of temporary lodging, getting new arrivals to their final destination in Canada, help with locating and securing permanent accommodation, financial orientation, general orientation, needs assessment, and broad-based settlement services.

¹¹See CIC Canada, 1999. Minister Lucienne Robillard welcomes refugees from Kosovo. News Release 99-22, and http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/press/vis03e/kosovo_e.html.

Figure 2: Number of Government-Assisted Refugees Admitted to Canada by Gender and Year of Arrival



1. Where do government-assisted refugees come from?

Source Areas and Source Countries

Table A.1 shows GARs by their landing year and country of origin categorized into one of five geographic areas. Table A.2 lists all the major source countries that government-assisted refugees have come from each year. For ease of inspection, the top 10 source countries for each landing year have been highlighted in light grey and the top three source countries for each landing year in dark grey.

The recent displacement of populations due to wars and political upheaval has changed the areas from which Canada has accepted GARs in recent years. There are proportionately more recent GARs from Africa and the Middle East and fewer from Asia and the Pacific and from South and Central America.¹² Similarly, the annual top 10 source countries have varied greatly over the last two decades, following the patterns and crises of the world situations.

Overall, approximately 34 per cent of these newcomers in Canada have come from Eastern Europe,¹³ 31 per cent from Asia and the Pacific, 18 per cent from Africa and the Middle East, and 16 per cent from South and Central America. Below we list the top source countries¹⁴ from these areas.

Eastern Europe. The largest proportion of GARs is from Eastern Europe. The top source countries from this area are Czechoslovakia,¹⁵ Federal Republic of Germany (FRG),¹⁶ Hungary,

¹²Between 1996 and 2000, 57 per cent of GARs who landed in Canada came from Eastern Europe, 27 per cent from Africa and the Middle East, 13 per cent from Asia and the Pacific, and 3 per cent from South and Central America.

¹³We renamed the source area Europe and the United Kingdom to Eastern Europe since this reflects more accurately the geographical areas in which GARs come from.

¹⁴We report country names as recorded in LIDS. We recognize that these names were current for the specific landing years but may now be outdated.

¹⁵In 1993 Czechoslovakia split into the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

¹⁶Between 1949 and 1990 there were two German states: the Federal Republic of Germany, which was commonly called West Germany, and the German Democratic Republic or GDR (Deutsche Demokratische Republik), which (*continued*)

Poland, the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR),¹⁷ Croatia, Yugoslavia,¹⁸ Bosnia-Herzegovina, Russia, and Romania. GARs from Croatia, Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Russia arrived mostly since 1993. GARs from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the former Soviet Union, and Romania arrived in Canada mainly during the 1980s.

Asia and the Pacific. GARs from Asia and the Pacific form the second largest group of GARs. GARs from this area generally arrived, throughout the 1980s until the early 1990s, from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, with the majority of GARs coming from Vietnam. Of the 71,279 GARs from Asia and the Pacific who landed in Canada since 1980, approximately 62 per cent were from Vietnam.¹⁹

South and Central America. The majority of GARs arriving in Canada from South and Central America came from El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Cuba, Chile, and Columbia. With the exception of Columbia, most GARs from South and Central America arrived in Canada from the early 1980s to mid-1990s. Approximately 57 per cent of the total 37,220 GARs from South and Central America came from El Salvador. A higher number of GARs have started to arrive in Canada from Columbia since 1999.

Africa and the Middle East. As seen in Table A.2, the top source countries for GARs who are from Africa and the Middle East include Egypt, Zaire, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Afghanistan.

More recently, the top 10 source countries in 2000 from which GARs came from, in descending order, are Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina followed closely by Croatia, Iran, Columbia, Iraq, Egypt, Sudan, and Zaire.

Similar to the trend observed for GARs (see Figure 2), more male GARs than female GARs arrived in the 1980s and early 1990s from the above source areas (table not shown). More recently, similar numbers of male and female GARs arrived in Canada from all source areas, except Africa and the Middle East — 59 per cent of GARs from Africa and the Middle East are male and approximately 51 per cent are male from the other source areas.

2. What are the basic characteristics of government-assisted refugees at landing?

Gender

Table A.3 lists landing year of government-assisted refugees by gender and age group. Approximately 58 per cent of GARs who arrived in Canada are male.²⁰ The largest observed difference in the number of male and female GARs arriving in Canada in the last two decades was 20 percentage points — 60 per cent males and 40 per cent females — occurring in 1980. In 1991 there was a striking decrease in the gap between the number of males and females arriving in Canada. About one in two recent GARs are females.

was also known as East Germany. The two German states were unified in 1990, when the German Democratic Republic joined the Federal Republik and adopted its laws. Before 1990, many citizens fled East Germany to take refuge in the Federal Republic of Germany via Hungary. Following the reunification, numerous economic and social problems resulted including increases in right-wing violence against foreigners (German Embassy, 2001. Questions and answers on the Federal Republic of Germany, Canadian edition).

¹⁷USSR separated into 15 new countries in 1991, one of which was Russia.

¹⁸In the early 1990s Yugoslavia separated into new countries, including Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia.

¹⁹Due to the “Boat People” crisis, Canada received about 60,000 Southeast Asians (Chinese, Vietnamese and Laotian refugees) between 1979 and 1981, the largest number of refugees admitted in such a short period (Beiser & Hou, 2000).

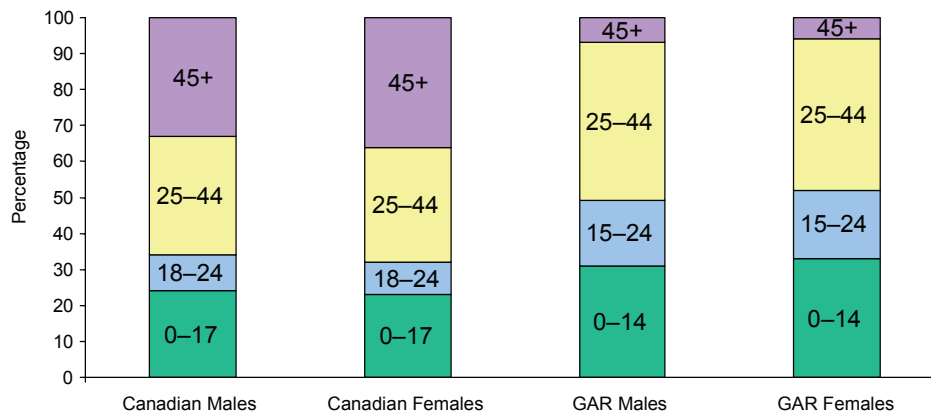
²⁰Less than one per cent of the government-assisted respondents did not indicate their gender status.

Age (grouped)

As shown in table A.3, over the last two decades, 29 per cent of GARs who arrived in Canada were children (ages 0 to 14), 23 per cent were young adults (aged 15 to 24), 44 per cent were of *prime* working age (25 to 44), and slightly less than 5 per cent were 45 years of age and older. More than 4 in 10 GARs were of working age when they arrived in Canada. The distribution in age for more recent GARs has not changed.

Figure 3 shows that the age structure of the GAR population is very different compared with the structure for Canadians. Overall, GARs tend to be younger than the Canadian population — more specifically, a very low percentage of GARs are over the age of 45.

Figure 3: Canadian Age Composition vs. GAR Age Composition by Gender (Average 1996–2000)



DATA SOURCES: LIDS as of October 2001 and special tables requested from Statistics Canada CANSIM II database.

Age: Male Versus Female

Table A.3 shows that, overall, more male GARs were under the age of 14 upon arrival in Canada than females, and proportionally fewer female GARs were in the prime working age group (25 to 44) — 41 per cent of the total female GARs versus 46 per cent for male GARs. In the last five years, however, on average there has been a similar proportion of male and female GARs arriving to Canada in each of these age groups. (See Figure 3.)

Principal Applicant and Dependants

Table A.4 shows GARs' family status (principal applicant or non-principal applicant) by gender and landing year.²¹ As shown, overall, more GARs arriving in Canada are non-principal applicants—of the 116,790 non-principal applicants, 32 per cent were spouses and 68 per cent were dependants (See Table A.5). Approximately 48 per cent of GARs (109,597) who arrived in Canada since 1980 were principal applicants—approximately 79 per cent in this group were male.

²¹Other applicant types refer to spouse and dependant.

GARs who accompanied principal applicants as spouses or dependants were more likely to be female — roughly 61 per cent of total non-principal applicants arriving in Canada over the last 20 years. Female GARs were more likely to arrive in Canada as the spouse of principal applicants, and more dependants were male.

Similar to the patterns we observed in the number of male and female GARs from 1980 until about 1990, the absolute and relative numbers of male principal applicants arriving in Canada were much larger than males in the spouse and dependant groups from 1980 until about 1990; in 1991 these group differences became less distinct. This decrease in the number of male principal applicants after 1990 is likely to be responsible for the reduction in the difference observed between the number of male and female GARs who arrived in Canada in the last decade.

Marital Status

Table A.5 reports GARs' family status by marital status and gender.²² This table indicates that, overall, more GARs were single than married when they arrived in Canada regardless of their family status — 58 per cent of total GARs. Furthermore, more principal applicants in the 1980s were single than married. Since 1991 more principal applicants arriving in Canada were married and accompanied by spouses, dependants, or both. In addition, since 1980 a very low percentage — approximately three per cent — of principal applicants arriving in Canada were widowed, divorced, or separated.

3. Where do government-assisted refugees initially settle in Canada?

Immigrants

Most immigrants settled in Ontario, specifically Toronto. An increasing number of immigrants have also settled in Quebec since 1987, mostly in Montreal. However, this trend changed in 1994 when more immigrants settled initially in British Columbia, in particular Vancouver. A steady but lower number of immigrants have also settled in Alberta, specifically Calgary and Edmonton. Very few immigrants have consistently settled in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories over the last two decades. If settling in these provinces, most did so in large urban centres.

Government-Assisted Refugees

CIC uses two processes to determine GARs' Canadian destination — the Pre-approved Plan and Destination Matching Requests (DMR). The first method involves an annual pre-approved plan that specifies the targeted number of GARs destined to which cities in Canada. Larger refugee processing visa offices abroad use this plan to determine GARs' Canadian destination.²³ The second approach is for smaller visa offices that are not using the annual

²²Other applicant here refers to spouse, dependent, and not stated.

²³The visa officers also consider other factors such as the presence of family members or others of a similar culture, prospects for employment, unemployment rates, skills in demand, housing availability, and climate to determine the destination.

pre-approved plan.²⁴ Visa officers submit the refugee's request to the "Matching Centre" located in the Refugees Branch at CIC that is responsible for selecting the most suitable destination for the refugees based on individual circumstances and community profile information.

Table A.6 shows the provinces that government-assisted refugees were destined for in the last 20 years as well as a more detailed breakdown by census metropolitan areas (CMAs) of initial destination. Similar to the pattern for all immigrants, Ontario has been the intended province of residence for most GARs across landing years (received approximately 41 per cent of all GARs arriving in Canada since 1980). The majority of GARs are destined for Toronto — 47 per cent of the total GARs destined for Ontario since 1980 or 19 per cent of all GARs arriving in Canada. Other CMAs in Ontario characterized as major resettlement destinations for GARs include Ottawa-Hull, London, Kitchener, Windsor, Hamilton, Oshawa, and Niagara, although Niagara has basically ceased to be a destination for newer GARs.

The second province that GARs most commonly settle initially is Quebec; it received roughly 19 per cent of GARs arriving in Canada. Approximately 52 per cent of total GARs destined for Quebec since 1980 were destined for Montreal — 10 per cent of total GARs arriving in Canada. The number of newcomers intended for Montreal has decreased considerably over the last several years; around 1991 there was a sudden drop in the number of government-assisted refugees settling there. Over the years many GARs have also settled in other large metropolitan areas such as Quebec City and Sherbrooke.

Other Canadian provinces to which GARs are destined include the following: since 1980, 14 per cent to Alberta, 11 per cent to British Columbia, 6 per cent to Manitoba, and 5 per cent to Saskatchewan. If settling in Alberta, GARs typically do so in Edmonton, although this number has dropped steadily over the last 20 years. GARs also tend to settle in Calgary, Lethbridge, Red Deer, and Medicine Hat, with fewer GARs settling in the more rural areas of the province. It may not be as practical in some cases for GARs to be resettled in more rural areas since community resources and services need to be available to support GARs' resettlement and integration needs. In British Columbia most GARs initially reside in Vancouver. GARs who settled in Manitoba generally did so in Winnipeg. In Saskatchewan most GARs settled in Regina and Saskatoon.

Very few GARs are destined for the Atlantic provinces and the Territories. Less than one per cent of total GARs have settled in the Atlantic provinces and the Territories in the last two decades. Recently, however, the Atlantic provinces were the destination for six per cent of all GARs in 2000 — one per cent in Newfoundland, one per cent in PEI, two per cent in New Brunswick, and two per cent in Nova Scotia.

Overall, the majority of GARs — approximately 67 per cent from 1980 to 2000 — are sent to urban centres across Canada, mainly Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa, Edmonton, Calgary, Quebec, Winnipeg, and most recently Hamilton.

²⁴This includes GARs bound for Quebec. In these cases, le Ministère des Relations avec les citoyens et de l'Immigration (MRCI) determines the Quebec destination and replies directly to the originating visa office.

4. What are the basic characteristics of government-assisted refugees at landing that affect their participation and outcomes in the labour market?

Education

Table A.7 shows the highest level of education completed by male and female principal applicants. With some exceptions, many principal applicants have relatively low levels of education. As indicated in the table, 27 per cent of the total 109,597 principal applicant GARs finished 0 to 9 years of school; 28 per cent finished 10 to 12 years of school; 11 per cent completed 13 or more years of school; 23 per cent obtained a trade certificate or non-university diploma, and 12 per cent had obtained a post-secondary degree (Bachelor, Master's, or Doctorate degree). Principal applicant GARs tend to have a lower level of education than other immigrants and Canadians as a whole (figure not shown).

Recent principal applicant GARs tended to be better educated, although there was still a sizable proportion of GARs with a low level of education. For principal applicants who arrived in Canada between 1996 and 2000, 18 per cent had 0 to 9 years of schooling, 30 per cent had 10 to 12 years of school, 10 per cent had 13 or more years, 27 per cent had a trade certificate or non-university diploma, and 14 per cent had a post-secondary degree. This finding is consistent with other studies that indicate that recent immigrants are better educated (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 2001a). For example, 40 per cent of immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1998 and 2000 had a post-secondary degree (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 2001b).

Female principal applicants tended to be less educated — 16 per cent of males versus 25 per cent of females who landed between 1996 and 2000 had completed 0 to 9 years of school.

Table A.8 shows that principal applicants from Asia and the Pacific area have a lower level of education than principal applicants from other source areas. Roughly 49 per cent of all principal applicant GARs from Asia and the Pacific had completed 0 to 9 years of school when they arrived in Canada. In contrast, the percentage of principal applicants with 0 to 9 years of school was 37 per cent for South and Central America, 18 per cent for Africa and the Middle East, and 6 per cent for Eastern Europe. Those from Eastern Europe were more likely to have a trade certificate (33 per cent) or Bachelor degree (19 per cent) than other educational levels.

Knowledge of Canada's Official Languages at Landing

In most landing years, more than two out of three GARs could not speak English or French upon their arrival in Canada; in some years the number was as high as 9 out of 10 GARs (see Table A.9). In 1990 through 1992 and 2000, the number was slightly lower — six out of 10 GARs who arrived in the year did not speak one of the official languages.

Some principal applicants were children ages 14 and under at landing (less than one per cent). Similar to the high number of non-English and non-French speakers, roughly three out of four principal applicants ages 14 and under did not speak English or French (see Table A.10).

Further investigation of the self-reported language ability by source areas revealed that 47 per cent of the 23,268 principal applicant GARs arriving in Canada from Africa and the Middle East did not know either official Canadian languages, which is the lowest among the four source areas (see Table A.11). The percentage of GARs who did not speak English or

French in the other source areas were 65 per cent from Asia and the Pacific, 78 per cent from Eastern Europe, and 79 per cent from South and Central America.

As expected, neither English nor French was declared as a common first language among GARs. Table A.12 reports the top native languages of principal applicant GARs. There is a wide variety of first languages spoken by GARs, and the majority language spoken by GARs may change from year to year depending on the top source country in that year. Throughout most of the 1980s and early 1990s, the top recorded language was Vietnamese, except in 1982 when the top recorded language was Polish. From 1983 to 1987, and again in 1991, more GARs spoke Spanish than any other native languages. Between 1994 and 1999 the Serbo-Croatian language topped the list. In 2000 more GARs spoke Albanian as their first language.

Intention to Work

Table A.13 reports principal applicants' intention to work upon arrival in Canada; Table A.14 presents intention to work data for principal applicants by gender and Table A.15 lists intention to work data for principal applicants by their self-reported knowledge of an official language at landing.

Readers should be aware that intention to work is not mandatory information in either the application or landing processes. It is not known how reliable the collected information is. It does, however, provide an important proxy of GARs' intention to participate in the labour market, and thus we use this information cautiously.

Referring to Table A.13, we see that almost all principal applicant GARs indicated their intention to work in Canada upon landing (96 per cent). Of the remaining four per cent who do not intend to work, about one in two planned to be in school (table not shown). Over the last two decades, very few principal applicants indicated that they would engage in self-employment.

Table A.14 shows that slightly more male principal applicants reported their intention to work in comparison with female principal applicants in each landing year (97 versus 90 per cent).

Most principal applicant refugees say they want to work, but roughly 70 per cent cannot speak one of the official Canadian languages (see Table A.15). Of the GARs who reported their intention not to work, 72 per cent did not speak English or French.

Generally, GARs do not know English or French upon arrival, which means many GARs will learn a new language as an adult. Furthermore, some GARs may not be literate in their first language, making the task of learning a second language even more challenging.

Skill Level and Occupation

Table A.16 shows the skill level for male and female principal applicants. A high number of GARs — 32 per cent of the total principal applicant subgroup — did not provide the required information to determine their skill level upon arriving in Canada. This high proportion of missing or not stated values requires us to interpret the distribution in skill levels with caution.

Skills levels for the other 68 per cent of total principal applicants based on the skills categories listed in the National Occupational Classification manual²⁵ shows the following:

- 29 per cent of total male principal applicants and 21 per cent of total female principal applicants were considered skilled and technical
- 17 per cent of total male principal applicants and 18 per cent of total female principal applicants were classified at the intermediate and clerical skill level
- 14 per cent of total male principals and only 8 per cent of total female principal applicants were elemental and labour-skilled
- approximately the same percentage of total male and female principal applicants were considered professionals — 9 per cent
- less than one per cent of both total males and females were classified at the management skill level

A closer investigation of occupation (see Table A.17) showed that across landing years, more males were in “trades and skilled transport/equipment operators Levels I and II” and “labourers in processing, manufacturing and utilities” than other occupations — 25 per cent and 9 per cent of male GARs who reported an occupation before arriving in Canada respectively. Looking at Table A.18, we see the same top occupation for females as males — 19 per cent of female GARs who reported an occupation before arriving in Canada were in “trades and skilled transport/equipment operators Levels II.” The second highest occupation was “clerical” with approximately 11 per cent of female GARs who reported an occupation.

C. Economic Performance and Self-Sufficiency

As shown earlier, many GARs intend to work when they arrive in Canada. The barriers to employment (such as job finding skills, family responsibility, child care, transportation, sickness, and disability), however, are greater for GARs, as many do not have the appropriate language proficiency (see Table A.9), or education and skills (see tables A.7 and A.16). These barriers serve only to increase the initial difficulties that many newcomers experience when entering the labour market. GARs need time to adjust to their new country. Existing studies indicate that GARs do not do as well as other immigrants and Canadian-born individuals in the labour market in both the early and subsequent years after arrival (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 1998a). GARs are generally not expected to achieve economic outcomes similar to other immigrants during the early settlement period, as GARs are admitted into Canada for humanitarian reasons, and not for their skills or economic contributions. GARs may require an extended adjustment period before they can enter the labour market. This could translate into a high dependence on transfer programs and low employment earnings in the initial years in Canada.

We will explore the depth of this issue by examining GARs’ economic integration and self-sufficiency in terms of their employment earnings and reliance on EI and social assistance. The relationships between these outcomes and individual characteristics that may facilitate GARs’ economic integration, considering one characteristic at a time, will also be examined.

²⁵Human Resources Development Canada, 2001. Developed in co-operation with Statistics Canada, the NOC 2001 manual is the standard framework for collecting and analyzing labour market information. It provides descriptions of over 500 occupational groups that cover approximately 30,000 job titles.

Table A.1: Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year By Source Area

Source Area	Landing Year												
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Africa and the Middle East	200	243	440	1,108	1,587	1,724	1,676	1,745	3,100	3,329	3,694	19,237	10,590
Asia and Pacific	14,737	5,302	3,710	3,489	4,030	4,903	4,733	4,157	3,819	4,347	4,606	1,991	1,992
South and Central America	677	476	701	2,284	2,834	3,621	3,906	4,049	3,382	3,501	3,581	2,856	2,224
Eastern Europe	3,623	4,566	6,189	2,861	2,850	2,596	3,418	3,826	3,920	3,797	3,516	2,701	1,911
Other**	---	---	---	---	36	---	---	75	49	65	88	2,860	2,064
Total	19,237	10,590	11,056	9,757	11,337	12,846	13,740	13,852	14,270	15,039	15,485	1,991	1,992
Source Area	1,991	1,992	1,993	1,994	1,995	1,996	1,997	1,998	1,999	2,000	Total	1,991	1,992
Africa and the Middle East	2,856	2,224	2,547	1,757	1,619	1,706	2,177	1,674	1,985	3,382	40,773	2,701	1,911
Asia and Pacific	2,701	1,911	1,780	1,247	622	951	1,039	818	951	1,426	71,279	2,860	2,064
South and Central America	2,860	2,064	1,327	337	223	216	162	183	163	673	37,220	404	209
Eastern Europe	404	209	1,267	4,295	5,737	4,996	4,332	4,750	4,341	5,137	76,630	58	---
Other**	58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	43	485	8,879	6,420
Total	8,879	6,420	6,928	7,639	8,202	7,869	7,711	7,425	7,444	10,661	226,387	8,879	6,420

* Includes GARs who did not state their source country or those who stated their source country as the United States.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.2: Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Source Country

Source Country	Landing Year																				Total		
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000	
Czechoslovakia	90	835	528	928	632	641	541	578	483	505	773	30	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6,564	
FRG	---	88	504	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	32	63	167	576	47	1,521	
Hungary	199	248	158	228	203	421	456	329	574	230	84	---	---	77	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,235	
Poland	398	2,296	4,106	1,004	1,488	1,196	1,958	2,108	2,174	2,202	1,701	52	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	20,726	
USSR	1,725	564	109	31	---	---	---	---	---	131	50	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,733	
Croatia	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	44	149	203	251	607	955	1,026	677	3,912		
Yugoslavia	---	---	---	35	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	37	215	231	195	247	240	282	3,491	---	5,026		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Russia	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	143	119	---	---	294	
Romania	290	405	418	425	264	271	379	721	617	586	753	138	40	---	---	---	89	229	185	270	506		
Egypt	---	---	56	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	147	63	46	67	265	963	
Zaire	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	37	33	41	---	31	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Ethiopia	68	52	123	423	609	576	617	465	678	739	591	785	457	427	256	86	42	56	64	69	153	7,336	
Somalia	---	---	---	---	---	---	30	67	169	280	595	408	171	191	207	182	196	259	56	162	89	3,126	
Sudan	---	---	31	63	---	---	---	38	---	62	104	114	100	115	39	32	49	334	374	239	399	2,195	
Sri Lanka	---	---	---	---	---	99	238	511	155	141	401	139	36	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,797	
Lebanon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	52	395	196	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	733	
Iran	---	---	108	198	326	606	622	710	1,534	1,398	1,141	911	486	318	198	359	305	165	207	421	627	10,672	
Iraq	---	---	---	182	319	208	113	80	175	287	391	125	770	1,261	758	577	566	779	485	424	541	8,053	
Philippines	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	40	---	---	---	---	86	38	52	---	---	---	---	---	---	314	
Saudi Arabia	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	141	---	---	---	---	---	247	
Afghanistan	---	---	61	35	73	308	414	551	525	469	442	265	153	45	170	264	746	868	666	751	1,122	7,960	
Cambodia	1,432	899	996	1,234	1,209	1,339	1,325	681	320	524	202	34	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10,223	
Laos	1,516	301	151	266	353	185	130	---	---	---	84	268	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,337	
Vietnam	11,580	3,927	2,293	1,815	2,141	2,909	2,521	2,293	2,687	2,988	3,325	1,808	1,536	1,567	901	171	---	---	---	---	---	44,497	
El Salvador	---	34	238	1,670	1,844	2,272	2,217	2,121	1,849	1,989	2,290	1,962	1,437	837	153	76	55	69	77	---	68	21,287	
Guatemala	---	---	---	141	449	508	642	467	307	390	432	487	394	393	131	106	112	61	31	---	33	5,124	
Nicaragua	---	---	---	40	85	440	594	917	813	536	341	105	50	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,958	
Cuba	292	---	45	33	---	52	40	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	31	---	---	581	
Chile	331	307	296	201	126	124	152	287	225	276	270	98	33	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,767	
Columbia	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other**	415	516	790	739	1,052	588	652	787	857	1,169	1,024	853	572	484	512	398	511	499	582	612	1,353	744	
Total	19,237	10,590	11,056	9,757	11,337	12,846	13,740	13,852	14,270	15,039	15,485	8,879	6,420	6,928	7,639	8,202	7,869	7,711	7,425	7,444	10,661	226,387	

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

** Includes all other source countries and source countries not stated.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.3: Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Gender and Age (Grouped)

Age (Grouped)	Landing Year																						
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total	
Male																							
0 to 14	2,862	1,557	1,522	1,376	1,557	1,857	1,980	1,998	2,035	2,060	2,246												
15 to 24	4,373	1,553	1,369	1,662	1,855	2,140	1,985	1,922	2,169	2,081	2,151												
25 to 44	3,612	2,632	3,253	2,649	3,262	3,483	4,019	4,192	4,246	4,532	4,496												
45+	632	312	310	283	261	246	280	279	262	304	357												
Age not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Subtotal	11,479	6,054	6,454	5,970	6,935	7,726	8,265	8,391	8,712	8,977	9,250												
Female																							
0 to 14	2,318	1,386	1,337	1,209	1,340	1,686	1,792	1,770	1,801	1,932	2,042												
15 to 24	2,349	1,071	976	885	1,147	1,240	1,203	1,121	1,170	1,281	1,228												
25 to 44	2,487	1,789	2,043	1,469	1,705	1,990	2,264	2,354	2,380	2,635	2,695												
45+	603	290	246	224	210	185	209	207	206	214	269												
Age not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Subtotal	7,757	4,536	4,602	3,787	4,402	5,101	5,468	5,452	5,557	6,062	6,234												
Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Total	19,237	10,590	11,056	9,757	11,337	12,846	13,740	13,852	14,270	15,039	15,485												
Age (Grouped)																							
Male																							
0 to 14	1,488	1,119	1,076	1,207	1,301	1,202	1,236	1,286	1,266	1,838	34,069												
15 to 24	996	706	843	647	653	614	709	602	716	1,234	30,980												
25 to 44	2,319	1,575	1,789	1,965	2,216	2,113	2,251	1,863	1,656	1,944	60,067												
45+	241	175	163	242	279	239	215	224	273	517	6,094												
Age not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Subtotal	5,044	3,575	3,871	4,061	4,452	4,168	4,411	3,975	3,913	5,533	131,216												
Female																							
0 to 14	1,277	960	1,043	1,147	1,137	1,213	1,116	1,092	1,129	1,770	30,497												
15 to 24	820	606	656	613	640	641	551	625	661	1,089	20,573												
25 to 44	1,544	1,150	1,240	1,628	1,741	1,628	1,494	1,550	1,540	1,826	39,152												
45+	192	121	116	187	228	219	139	183	200	443	4,891												
Age not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Subtotal	3,833	2,837	3,055	3,576	3,750	3,701	3,300	3,450	3,531	5,128	95,119												
Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---												
Total	8,879	6,420	6,928	7,639	8,202	7,869	7,711	7,425	7,444	10,661	226,387												

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

Less than one per cent of GARs did not indicate their gender.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.4: Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Gender and Family Status

Family Status	Gender	Landing Year																							
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2,000	Total		
Non-principal applicant	Male	4,058	1,980	1,837	1,726	1,954	2,328	2,445	2,465	2,519	2,896	2,964													
	Female	5,713	3,567	3,683	2,933	3,275	3,838	4,193	4,117	4,202	4,470	4,603													
	Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---													
Principal applicant	Subtotal	9,772	5,547	5,520	4,659	5,229	6,173	6,643	6,585	6,721	7,366	7,567													
	Male	7,421	4,074	4,617	4,244	4,981	5,398	5,820	5,926	6,193	6,081	6,286													
	Female	2,044	969	919	854	1,127	1,263	1,275	1,335	1,355	1,592	1,631													
Total	Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---														
	Subtotal	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918													
	Total	19,237	10,590	11,056	9,757	11,337	12,846	13,740	13,852	14,270	15,039	15,485													
<hr/>																									
Non-principal applicant	Male	1,945	1,470	1,376	1,697	1,934	1,715	1,681	1,731	1,803	2,545	45,069													
	Female	2,781	2,121	2,240	2,593	2,748	2,804	2,588	2,679	2,712	3,841	71,701													
	Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---													
Principal applicant	Subtotal	4,727	3,591	3,618	4,291	4,682	4,519	4,269	4,410	4,515	6,386	116,790													
	Male	3,099	2,105	2,495	2,364	2,518	2,453	2,730	2,244	2,110	2,988	86,147													
	Female	1,052	716	815	983	1,002	897	712	771	819	1,287	23,418													
Total	Gender not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	32													
	Subtotal	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597													
	Total	8,879	6,420	6,928	7,639	8,202	7,869	7,711	7,425	7,444	10,661	226,387													

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

Table A.5: Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Gender, Family, and Marital Status

Family Status	Marital Status	Landing Year																			Total	
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998		1999
Female																						
Principal applicant	Single	1,365	598	573	536	762	866	796	840	870	1,063	960	578	443	497	482	432	431	370	369	379	656
	Married	376	194	148	154	193	224	241	301	283	309	410	293	176	170	360	413	301	226	210	273	351
	Other**	303	177	198	164	172	173	238	194	202	220	261	181	97	148	141	157	165	116	192	167	280
	Subtotal	2,044	969	919	854	1,127	1,263	1,335	1,335	1,592	1,631	1,952	1,631	1,052	716	815	983	1,002	897	712	771	1,287
Spouse	Single	2,592	1,832	2,070	1,471	1,675	1,899	2,113	2,065	2,123	2,155	2,185	1,213	916	960	1,228	1,325	1,349	1,255	1,329	1,275	1,472
	Married	2,593	1,833	2,073	1,476	1,680	1,900	2,118	2,069	2,124	2,157	2,186	1,213	918	961	1,228	1,325	1,349	1,255	1,329	1,276	1,476
	Other**	2,980	1,682	1,573	1,428	1,578	1,927	2,058	2,037	2,068	2,257	2,365	1,558	1,179	1,262	1,356	1,366	1,448	1,328	1,349	1,425	2,205
	Subtotal	51	89	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	158
Dependant	Single	89	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	200
	Married	3,120	1,731	1,607	1,457	1,594	1,938	2,072	2,047	2,077	2,313	2,371	1,562	1,196	1,274	1,363	1,367	1,455	1,333	1,350	1,436	2,365
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	70
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	58
Not stated	Single	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	134
	Married	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Principal applicant	Total single	4,345	2,283	2,147	1,969	2,345	2,794	2,859	2,880	2,939	3,320	3,353	2,138	1,625	1,761	1,840	1,826	1,879	1,698	1,718	1,805	2,864
	Total married	3,019	2,050	2,235	1,638	1,881	2,132	2,366	2,377	2,415	2,499	2,617	1,514	1,108	1,143	1,592	1,762	1,654	1,483	1,540	1,559	1,981
	Total other**	393	203	220	180	176	175	243	195	203	243	264	181	104	151	144	162	168	119	192	167	283
	Subtotal	7,757	4,536	4,602	3,787	4,402	5,101	5,468	5,452	5,557	6,082	6,234	3,833	2,837	3,055	3,576	3,750	3,701	3,300	3,450	3,531	5,128
Spouse	Single	3,790	1,616	1,736	2,116	2,405	2,680	2,713	2,798	3,065	3,080	3,013	1,440	939	1,287	966	1,067	993	1,350	853	748	1,245
	Married	3,423	2,332	2,721	1,985	2,429	2,568	2,918	2,971	2,954	2,827	3,093	1,580	1,111	1,149	1,351	1,413	1,435	1,347	1,352	1,333	1,687
	Other**	208	126	160	143	147	150	189	157	174	174	180	79	55	59	47	38	25	33	39	29	56
	Subtotal	7,421	4,074	4,617	4,244	4,981	5,398	5,820	5,926	6,193	6,081	6,286	3,099	2,105	2,495	2,364	2,518	2,453	2,730	2,244	2,110	2,988
Dependant	Single	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Married	33	---	34	33	58	79	84	121	96	189	141	109	75	80	272	346	260	197	166	182	209
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	33	---	34	33	58	80	85	121	96	189	141	110	75	80	272	346	260	197	166	182	209
Not stated	Single	3,977	1,936	1,796	1,687	1,888	2,237	2,353	2,336	2,420	2,496	2,762	1,827	1,383	1,290	1,421	1,530	1,452	1,482	1,565	1,619	2,310
	Married	39	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	201	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	4,024	1,949	1,801	1,693	1,895	2,247	2,355	2,340	2,421	2,700	2,771	1,830	1,388	1,291	1,422	1,530	1,455	1,484	1,565	1,621	2,336
Gender not stated**	Single	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Married	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Principal applicant	Total single	7,767	3,553	3,532	3,803	4,293	4,917	5,069	5,136	5,486	5,581	5,802	3,270	2,325	2,579	2,390	2,620	2,445	2,832	2,418	2,367	3,555
	Total married	3,495	2,372	2,760	2,023	2,494	2,657	3,007	3,098	3,051	3,219	3,265	1,692	1,195	1,233	1,624	1,793	1,696	1,546	1,518	1,517	1,921
	Total other**	217	129	162	144	148	152	189	157	175	177	183	82	55	59	47	39	---	---	---	---	57
	Subtotal	11,479	6,054	6,454	5,970	6,935	7,726	8,265	8,391	8,712	8,977	9,250	5,044	3,575	3,871	4,061	4,452	4,168	4,411	3,975	3,913	5,533
Gender not stated**	Single	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Married	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

*Includes government-assisted refugees who are divorced, separated, widowed, or who did not state their marital status.

**Total excludes 52 individuals with gender not stated.

Table A.8: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Education, Gender, and Source Area

Education	Gender	Landing Year																				Total		
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000	
0-9 years of school	Male	95	47	58	347	385	435	395	372	309	325	349	250	149	92	34	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,746	
	Female	---	---	---	128	150	189	189	199	165	158	213	150	95	61	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,854	
	Subtotal	112	58	74	475	535	630	584	571	474	483	562	400	244	153	32	36	---	---	---	---	---	5,602	
10-12 years of school	Male	80	48	64	230	224	261	276	296	213	213	206	146	74	45	---	---	---	---	---	---	54	2,455	
	Female	---	---	---	62	53	90	111	108	73	77	75	62	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	865	
	Subtotal	104	61	73	292	277	341	387	404	272	290	281	208	101	68	---	---	---	---	---	---	58	3,320	
13+ years of school	Male	44	38	53	135	163	214	208	208	186	164	199	112	61	49	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,926		
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	493	
	Subtotal	56	49	65	156	191	251	260	268	233	203	258	149	95	64	---	---	---	---	---	---	32	2,419	
Trade certificate	Male	40	31	73	78	137	129	86	80	81	97	88	94	73	39	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,160		
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	471	
	Subtotal	47	39	84	101	187	171	106	107	122	143	135	140	127	69	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,631		
Non-university diploma	Male	---	---	---	49	83	66	74	69	67	49	61	39	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	702		
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	264		
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	967		
BA	Male	---	---	---	55	116	85	94	89	92	89	87	68	38	37	---	---	---	---	---	---	967		
	Female	---	---	---	40	33	64	84	105	76	72	78	73	64	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38		
	Subtotal	---	---	---	48	36	72	98	126	95	91	99	92	91	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	842		
MA	Male	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	76		
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Phd	Male	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33		
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	42		
Education not stated	Male	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---		
Total South and Central America		367	241	345	1,148	1,359	1,574	1,554	1,579	1,295	1,304	1,436	1,064	698	425	130	95	83	65	76	72	234	15,144	
Europe and the United Kingdom																								
0-9 years of school	Male	72	61	70	43	70	51	59	65	66	54	---	---	---	63	55	77	67	89	75	101	293	1,472	
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	Subtotal	93	74	87	46	88	69	75	72	69	72	69	38	128	81	94	127	117	117	129	128	167	517	2,141
10-12 years of school	Male	121	143	259	123	148	143	325	381	385	293	193	193	---	---	249	267	344	366	449	290	595	5,124	
	Female	37	43	68	---	64	---	69	73	95	81	58	---	---	---	86	140	141	101	138	59	169	1,497	
	Subtotal	158	186	327	139	212	173	394	455	480	374	251	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
13+ years of school	Male	78	137	290	99	121	146	244	215	217	146	160	215	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	Female	---	30	62	---	33	---	37	54	40	37	41	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	Subtotal	103	167	352	119	154	166	281	269	257	183	201	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Trade certificate	Male	599	834	1,217	661	731	591	582	679	730	766	682	69	---	182	172	335	293	358	401	363	196	10,468	
	Female	50	69	82	42	41	59	56	60	68	92	74	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
	Subtotal	649	903	1,299	703	772	652	638	739	798	858	756	75	30	193	239	425	370	445	469	445	262	11,720	
Non-university diploma	Male	164	241	342	132	104	84	119	136	103	122	96	---	---	---	53	189	212	166	164	282	79	2,820	
	Female	35	51	65	---	32	---	32	38	---	---	---	---	---	---	40	88	100	48	48	77	36	821	
	Subtotal	199	292	407	153	136	112	151	174	130	148	116	---	---	---	93	277	312	214	212	359	115	3,641	
BA	Male	335	448	567	226	247	207	319	299	240	231	246	---	---	---	91	468	405	306	207	172	115	93	5,262
	Female	36	46	76	---	31	34	46	57	42	34	40	---	---	---	33	225	232	142	88	57	41	---	1,325
	Subtotal	371	494	643	250	278	243	365	356	282	265	286	38	---	---	124	693	637	448	295	229	156	122	6,589
MA	Male	51	35	75	---	---	---	---	---	33	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	422
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	85
	Subtotal	54	42	85	---	---	---	---	---	32	44	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	507
Phd	Male	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	205
	Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Education not stated	Male	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Female	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Total Europe and the United Kingdom		1,649	2,188	3,229	1,458	1,685	1,445	1,945	2,119	2,067	1,928	1,680	192	75	486	1,682	2,267	2,015	1,735	1,785	1,592	2,053	35,275	
United States/Not stated		9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597	
Total principal applicants																								

(continued)

Table A.9: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Self-Declared Knowledge of One of the Official Canadian Languages at Landing

Language	Landing Year																				Total
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	
English	651	733	1,081	1,170	1,213	1,532	1,855	1,807	1,675	2,294	2,861	1,497	966	786	967	1,002	864	937	742	578	1,588
French	339	229	267	217	213	177	176	166	185	210	274	153	---	68	72	92	159	83	76	85	218
Both	185	179	175	149	133	127	139	157	170	177	268	113	41	42	71	58	118	81	72	50	61
Neither	8,282	3,886	4,011	3,562	4,549	4,837	4,927	5,137	5,519	4,992	4,515	2,389	1,796	2,414	2,238	2,367	2,209	2,341	2,125	2,216	2,408
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total number	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.10: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Age and Self-Declared Knowledge of One of the Official Canadian Languages at Landing

Language	Age	Landing Year																				Total
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	
English	0 to 14	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	46
French		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Both		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Neither		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	299
Total number		---	---	33	---	---	---	---	---	---	37	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	400
English	15 +	649	732	1,079	1,169	1,212	1,531	1,849	1,804	1,667	2,287	2,844	1,490	963	784	964	1,001	860	930	739	577	1,580
French		338	226	266	214	213	172	175	165	184	207	267	150	---	68	72	92	158	82	75	85	217
Both		184	179	174	149	132	126	139	152	169	176	268	113	41	42	71	58	118	81	72	50	61
Neither		8,269	3,858	3,975	3,526	4,526	4,812	4,903	5,107	5,492	4,958	4,479	2,369	1,790	2,408	2,228	2,365	2,206	2,338	2,121	2,208	2,371
Not stated		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total number		9,448	5,011	5,496	5,058	6,083	6,641	7,066	7,228	7,512	7,628	7,858	4,122	2,819	3,302	3,335	3,517	3,342	3,431	3,007	2,920	4,229
Grand total		9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.11: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Source Area and Self-Declared Knowledge of One of the Official Canadian Languages at Landing

Language	Source Area	Landing Year																												Total
		1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000								
English	Africa and the Middle East	77	94	229	435	545	651	777	594	846	881	1,056	806	465	465	308	367	282	446	291	215	421	10,251							
French		---	---	---	---	---	31	48	56	81	68	156	109	---	45	41	---	97	47	40	59	145	1,156							
Both		---	30	---	35	32	50	57	62	70	81	152	80	---	40	---	46	45	35	33	33	---	1,005							
Neither		---	---	---	229	480	434	327	474	997	968	809	701	637	884	482	434	448	707	436	549	825	10,856							
Total number		108	142	304	721	1,082	1,166	1,209	1,186	1,994	1,998	2,173	1,696	1,147	1,416	871	855	873	1,245	802	856	1,424	23,288							
English	Asia and Pacific	358	284	309	386	271	458	609	724	458	1,029	1,299	505	350	148	70	79	113	80	105	108	200	7,943							
French		239	117	107	95	64	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	763							
Both		124	84	67	53	---	30	1,726	1,603	---	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,834							
Neither		6,615	1,983	1,169	1,237	1,615	1,973	---	34	1,700	1,354	1,281	659	547	821	590	218	251	316	246	297	347	23,281							
Not stated		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Total number		7,341	2,470	1,663	1,771	1,978	2,487	2,389	2,383	2,191	2,435	2,613	1,178	907	982	663	302	379	397	352	405	553	35,829							
English	South and Central America	56	44	79	152	188	253	273	244	134	161	227	138	132	63	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,280							
French		43	38	56	70	94	81	39	---	57	61	58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	674							
Both		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---							
Neither		257	134	187	902	1,046	1,217	1,228	1,290	1,080	1,062	1,132	897	559	351	102	65	62	41	66	59	208	11,945							
Not stated		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Total number		367	241	345	1,148	1,359	1,574	1,554	1,579	1,295	1,304	1,436	1,064	698	425	130	95	83	65	76	72	234	15,144							
English	Europe and the United Kingdom	160	309	460	197	206	169	196	245	235	216	266	44	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6,284							
French		50	62	80	30	30	30	39	63	61	35	61	51	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	886							
Both		34	51	58	37	42	---	40	43	55	44	71	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	756							
Neither		1,404	1,763	2,631	1,194	1,407	1,213	1,646	1,770	1,742	1,607	1,292	120	53	357	1,064	1,650	1,448	1,277	1,377	1,309	1,020	27,344							
Not stated		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Total number		1,649	2,188	3,229	1,458	1,685	1,445	1,945	2,119	2,067	1,928	1,680	192	75	486	1,682	2,267	2,015	1,735	1,785	1,592	2,053	35,275							
English	Other**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	41							
French		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Both		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Neither		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---						
Total number		9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597							

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

**Includes those who did not state their source area and those who stated their source area as the United States.

---Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.12: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Native Language

Native Language	Landing Year																				Total		
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000	
Vietnamese	4,393	1,187	754	935	1,202	1,488	1,243	1,201	1,360	1,725	1,783	757	795	873	512	88	---	---	---	---	---	20,313	
Spanish	355	223	329	1,123	1,305	1,508	1,470	1,540	1,270	1,260	1,419	1,058	689	422	128	94	83	62	77	68	226	14,709	
Polish	266	1,132	2,393	526	876	696	1,174	1,181	1,150	943	764	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	11,149	
Serbo-Croatian	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other African	72	90	210	459	542	435	509	496	746	846	449	472	314	174	69	---	41	80	57	80	120	6,286	
Persian	---	---	99	151	274	481	559	568	759	622	570	375	197	108	43	98	70	45	92	131	279	5,554	
Arabic	---	---	---	57	145	95	56	61	38	94	315	181	131	371	203	417	368	742	358	223	488	4,366	
Khmer	530	293	360	436	371	389	408	188	116	164	84	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,376	
Cantonese	1,232	425	328	177	132	172	190	168	171	107	113	33	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,289	
Romanian	224	293	342	313	179	155	221	293	370	384	399	58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,251	
Czech	282	281	222	310	240	218	178	166	124	143	224	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2,399	
Hungarian	124	174	127	160	136	255	275	339	335	124	98	---	---	---	---	37	---	---	---	---	---	2,252	
Somali	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Amharic	---	---	---	---	81	137	136	107	104	88	104	256	192	260	158	44	33	---	---	---	---	---	
Kurdish	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	147	184	193	128	182	227	122	79	69	40	60	61	60	1,604	
Serbian	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other Chinese	487	203	84	92	66	90	66	141	154	100	49	---	---	---	---	66	239	353	378	272	166	1,597	
Albanian	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tamil	---	---	---	---	---	74	153	351	106	107	283	112	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	74	1,366	1,464	
Dari	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Laotian	515	94	59	68	108	58	44	---	---	---	49	118	---	---	---	---	108	252	277	247	349	1,235	
Russian	647	225	52	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,145	
Pashto	---	---	---	---	---	54	77	146	136	89	52	37	---	---	---	---	55	36	---	---	---	1,060	
Slovak	52	59	42	81	50	82	63	90	72	82	131	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	822	
Other Middle East	---	---	---	---	67	42	---	---	180	116	54	40	49	61	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Croatian	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
English	---	---	---	---	---	55	73	41	---	---	31	---	---	---	---	---	157	197	150	168	82	772	
Farsi	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other Southeastern Asian	82	---	---	30	---	---	---	---	---	33	31	---	---	---	53	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total other language	174	313	99	115	237	163	144	132	139	375	291	186	93	153	202	259	333	229	174	194	342	4,347	
Unknown	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total	5,072	3,856	4,782	4,163	4,906	5,185	5,854	6,066	6,189	5,948	6,135	3,395	2,034	2,437	2,836	3,432	3,340	3,439	3,012	2,928	4,275	109,597	

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

-- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.13: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Intention to Work (grouped)

Intention to Work	Landing Year																				Total		
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000	
Yes	8,684	4,733	5,238	4,830	5,910	6,400	6,817	7,020	7,351	7,449	7,575	3,948	2,742	3,209	3,202	3,399	3,215	3,301	2,901	2,821	3,976	104,721	
No	777	302	282	265	197	267	277	245	198	224	341	203	87	101	145	121	135	141	114	108	299	4,829	
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total number	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597	

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

**Applies to those 15 years of age or older.

-- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.14: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Gender and Intention to Work

	Landing Year																					
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
Male Intention to Work																						
Employee	5,433	3,276	3,875	3,104	3,583	3,809	4,210	4,540	4,743	4,276	3,663	1,538	1,304	1,703	1,698	1,791	1,496	1,342	1,222	963	545	58,114
Occupation not identified	1,537	648	588	1,008	1,299	1,433	1,463	1,243	1,360	1,687	2,451	1,482	766	760	601	674	919	1,324	980	1,100	2,288	25,611
Self-employed	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Student	323	105	85	83	68	119	118	109	76	92	142	57	---	---	35	39	---	43	33	35	112	1,742
Do not intend to work	125	39	57	47	31	31	---	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	43
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35
Female Intention to Work																						
Employee	1,214	568	571	473	683	788	856	915	922	993	751	410	431	526	653	612	434	309	316	250	156	12,831
Occupation not identified	499	241	204	244	345	359	286	316	325	493	709	517	233	220	249	322	366	326	383	508	987	8,132
Student	130	42	43	---	---	31	37	---	41	32	59	38	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	66	760
Do not intend to work	199	116	97	106	73	85	96	---	67	74	111	87	33	54	58	46	69	54	43	33	78	1,604
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	79	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	91
Grand total	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.15: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Intention to Work and Self-Declared Knowledge of One of the Official Canadian Languages at Landing

	Landing Year																					
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Total
Language Intention to Work																						
English	614	716	1,036	1,144	1,172	1,447	1,760	1,746	1,633	2,247	2,762	1,435	938	777	941	979	833	899	707	557	1,476	25,819
French	312	217	247	198	202	162	167	164	171	195	239	140	---	64	71	87	152	75	75	79	202	3,241
Both	178	177	169	140	127	119	135	141	163	169	256	112	41	42	69	49	116	75	67	47	55	2,447
Neither	7,571	3,607	3,785	3,347	4,409	4,672	4,755	4,969	5,384	4,838	4,318	2,261	1,741	2,326	2,121	2,283	2,114	2,252	2,052	2,138	2,243	73,186
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	8,683	4,733	5,238	4,829	5,910	6,400	6,817	7,020	7,351	7,449	7,575	3,948	2,742	3,209	3,202	3,399	3,215	3,301	2,901	2,821	3,976	104,719
English	36	---	41	---	41	84	94	59	42	47	99	62	---	---	---	---	31	38	35	---	112	970
French	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	242
Both	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	118
Neither	708	273	216	212	139	160	170	168	135	154	195	127	55	88	116	84	95	89	73	78	165	3,500
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	778	302	282	266	197	267	277	245	198	224	341	203	87	101	145	121	135	141	114	108	299	4,831
English	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
French	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Both	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Neither	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	34
Not stated	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	47
Total number	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.16: Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Gender and Skill Level

Male — Skill Level	Landing Year																				Total	
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000
Management	50	---	31	---	33	33	---	54	48	40	51	---	---	30	38	49	49	---	---	---	---	657
Professional	606	501	558	416	402	413	504	464	410	334	352	170	129	238	522	413	334	217	199	132	91	7,405
Skilled and technical	2,626	1,531	2,013	1,307	1,423	1,540	1,616	1,830	2,023	1,706	1,547	527	500	734	666	845	752	695	655	512	272	25,320
Intermediate and clerical	1,410	782	866	860	1,021	1,131	1,229	1,356	1,290	1,208	985	399	331	363	240	331	280	318	246	210	130	14,986
Elemental and labour	741	440	416	525	850	1,000	1,153	959	1,155	1,218	1,430	703	377	402	281	174	85	100	116	99	44	12,268
Not stated	1,988	796	733	1,120	1,252	1,281	1,289	1,263	1,267	1,575	1,921	1,279	747	728	617	706	953	1,384	1,022	1,147	2,443	25,511
Female — Skill Level	1,980	1,981	1,982	1,983	1,984	1,985	1,986	1,987	1,988	1,989	1,990	1,991	1,992	1,993	1,994	1,995	1,996	1,997	1,998	1,999	2,000	Total
Management	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	91
Professional	154	107	97	66	62	83	90	110	105	96	86	64	58	69	228	240	171	103	91	67	38	2,185
Skilled and technical	568	201	223	181	305	374	311	317	350	417	290	162	188	234	197	174	129	111	118	82	64	4,996
Intermediate and clerical	407	228	214	177	235	250	325	359	367	367	282	120	106	121	171	166	113	71	73	78	46	4,276
Elemental and labour	80	30	35	53	134	149	156	151	131	147	294	161	92	116	57	---	---	---	33	---	---	1,908
Not stated	827	400	347	376	389	404	390	394	399	556	673	543	266	273	320	386	462	403	454	569	1,131	9,962
Total	9,465	5,043	5,536	5,098	6,108	6,673	7,097	7,267	7,549	7,673	7,918	4,152	2,829	3,310	3,348	3,520	3,350	3,442	3,015	2,929	4,275	109,597

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.17: Male Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by NOC

National Occupational Classification (Male)	Landing Year																				Total		
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999		2000	
Senior management	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	48	
Middle/Other management 1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	84	
Middle/Other management 2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Middle/Other management 3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Middle/Other management 4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Middle/Other management 5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	51	
Middle/Other management 6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	308	
Middle/Other management 7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	98	
Middle/Other management 8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Middle/Other management 9	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
Professional in business and finance	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	232	
Skilled administrative and business	41	---	---	---	36	---	---	---	36	48	45	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	498	
Clerical	201	121	145	194	228	251	235	219	225	222	170	114	114	96	84	49	88	72	55	---	30	2,840	
Professional in natural and applied sciences	241	285	380	215	206	198	271	241	204	159	151	57	34	119	364	248	209	150	114	76	32	3,954	
Technical related to natural and applied sciences	481	408	543	257	222	214	242	294	356	303	293	79	55	60	164	225	185	153	130	84	48	4,796	
Professional in health	76	61	49	46	47	48	55	37	34	34	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	663	
Technical and skilled in health	58	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	34	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	432	
Assisting in support of health services	39	---	---	---	33	43	55	34	---	---	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	455	
Professional in social sciences, education, government services, and religion	197	94	78	104	96	117	109	128	100	80	112	63	47	71	76	115	75	40	45	---	31	1,807	
Paraprofessional in law, social services, education, and religion	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	166	
Professional in art and culture	71	54	46	39	45	41	56	42	48	43	37	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	749	
Technical and skilled in art, culture, and recreation	106	66	75	53	67	62	71	71	71	57	57	43	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	996	
Skilled sales and service	236	72	88	74	109	108	104	96	110	96	91	43	49	64	49	52	64	61	66	40	---	1,690	
Intermediate sales and service	97	79	74	94	129	150	169	150	146	100	61	67	68	54	66	90	147	70	64	43	---	2,068	
Elemental sales and service	118	55	73	98	134	157	209	211	142	145	120	64	41	42	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,718	
Trades and skilled transport/equipment operators I	551	382	592	385	448	443	450	490	454	457	458	139	131	246	154	243	196	216	207	185	79	7,041	
Trades and skilled transport/equipment operators II	949	470	589	427	521	518	518	521	518	651	563	482	155	175	265	198	209	243	213	193	168	77	8,127
Intermediate in transport/equipment operation, installation, and maintenance	441	187	232	215	237	260	318	350	297	303	266	89	85	107	68	100	66	67	76	53	45	3,862	
Trades helpers / construction labourers and related	375	265	234	280	348	333	435	408	542	451	361	219	165	198	139	88	40	54	51	---	---	5,042	
Skilled in primary industry	188	72	60	40	76	118	141	163	185	117	90	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,407	
Intermediate in primary industry	83	95	92	90	115	93	177	204	226	194	156	38	32	37	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,706	
Labourers in primary industry	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	93	
Processing, manufacturing, and utilities supervisors and skilled operators	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	143	
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and assemblers 1	321	154	145	119	139	197	177	245	219	162	155	52	32	32	32	35	---	---	---	---	---	2,328	
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and assemblers 2	228	129	156	116	130	131	120	166	148	149	110	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1,747	
Labourers in processing, manufacturing, and utilities	245	116	101	140	362	501	505	335	463	609	944	418	165	159	115	63	---	---	---	---	---	5,418	
Occupation not stated	1,988	796	733	1,120	1,252	1,281	1,290	1,263	1,267	1,575	1,921	1,279	747	728	617	706	953	1,384	1,022	1,147	2,443	25,512	
Total	7,421	4,074	4,617	4,244	4,981	5,398	5,820	5,926	6,193	6,081	6,286	3,099	2,105	2,495	2,364	2,518	2,453	2,730	2,244	2,110	2,988	86,147	

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

--- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

Table A.18: Female Principal Applicant Government-Assisted Refugees — Landing Year by Occupation

National Occupational Classification (Female)	Landing Year												Total									
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991		1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Senior management																						
Middle/Other management 1																						
Middle/Other management 2																						
Middle/Other management 3																						
Middle/Other management 4																						
Middle/Other management 5																						
Middle/Other management 6																						
Middle/Other management 7																						47
Middle/Other management 8																						
Middle/Other management 9																						
Professional in business and finance																						
Skilled administrative and business																						72
Clerical	131	67	74	70	78	89	118	118	119	101	76	36	40	47	41	43	41				800	
Professional in natural and applied sciences			30																			1,469
Technical related to natural and applied sciences	34		55												104	72	49	40				529
Professional in health																45	34					457
Technical and skilled in health																37						405
Assisting in support of health services																						177
Professional in social sciences, education, government services, and religion																						402
Paraprofessional in law, social services, education, and religion	90	45	35			43	44	48	56	46	51	32	40		52	88	70				898	
Professional in art and culture																						74
Technical and skilled in art, culture, and recreation																						281
Skilled sales and service	53					32		37	39	57	47											263
Intermediate sales and service	49	65	52	33	59	53	82	92	101	105	63	34	32	58	72	58	39	30	35	38		1,169
Elemental sales and service	64			44	60	61	95	95	61	47	50	47	62	87	41							895
Trades and skilled transport/equipment operators I																						68
Trades and skilled transport/equipment operators II	396	103	90	106	173	220	176	186	189	235	132	74	105	144	84							2,474
Intermediate in transport/equipment operation, installation, and maintenance																						99
Trades helpers / construction labourers and related																						84
Skilled in primary industry																						34
Intermediate in primary industry																						114
Labourers in primary industry																						
Processing, manufacturing, and utilities supervisors and skilled operators																						
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and assemblers 1	184	59	56	39	57	77	63	87	89	105	84											991
Processing and manufacturing machine operators and assemblers 2																						
Labourers in processing, manufacturing, and utilities																						40
Occupation not stated	827	400	347	376	389	404	390	384	399	556	673	543	266	273	320	386	462	403	454	569	1,131	9,962
Total	2,044	969	919	854	1,127	1,263	1,275	1,335	1,355	1,592	1,631	1,052	716	815	983	1,002	897	712	771	819	1,287	23,418

DATA SOURCE: Landed Immigrant Data System (LIDS) as at October 2001.

-- Indicates that there were less than 30 observations.

1. Employment and Employment Earnings

Proportion of GARs Who Reported Employment Earnings

Figure B.1 indicates GAR taxfilers who reported employment earnings on their personal tax returns as a percentage of GARs who were 15 and older at landing by years in Canada and year of arrival. This ratio is the closest approximation we can make of an employment rate for the GARs. GAR taxfilers who reported employment earnings are used as a proxy for the number of GARs who were employed while the number of GARs who were 15 and older at landing represents the working-age population for that group. It is important to note that the denominator used to calculate these employment rates is static; the precise number should vary in each tax year as individuals in the cohort enter (turn 15 years of age) or exit (leave Canada or die) from the group. We cannot produce the latter number since we do not have information about exits, thus the results need to be interpreted with care. A solid line (—) shows the observations for cohorts who arrived in 1990 and earlier, and a broken line (- - -) shows the observations for cohorts who arrived after 1990.

As illustrated in Figure B.1, GARs who landed in the midst of the 1990–91 recession or shortly after experienced lower employment rates than those in the earlier decade. Between 41 and 61 per cent of GARs who landed in the 1980s reported employment earnings in each of the first two years after arriving.²⁶ A lower percentage of GAR taxfilers who arrived in the 1990s had employment earnings in the same period — between 19 and 50 per cent.

Hence, employment earnings are a source of income for many GARs, even in the initial years. The lower percentage of recent GARs with employment earnings suggest that later arrivals may be less likely to be in the labour force or more likely to be unemployed in the initial years. It is also important to note that the percentage of female GAR taxfilers with employment earnings is consistently lower than male GAR taxfilers; this gender gap increased for GARs arriving in the 1990s (tables not included).

Average Annual Employment Earnings

Annual employment earnings have commonly been used as the most important indicator of economic integration into Canadian society. Figure B.2 shows the average annual employment earnings in the first calendar year after landing for GAR taxfilers who reported employment earnings (in 1998 constant dollars). To examine average employment earnings in subsequent years, Figure B.3 shows the average employment earnings of GARs across landing years and years in Canada.

²⁶First year in Canada is defined as the first calendar year after the refugee's landing year (e.g. the first year in Canada is 1981 for GARs who landed between January and December 1980). This definition is used in order to analyze the earliest first full year that GARs lived in Canada.

Figure B.1: GAR Taxfilers Who Reported Employment Earnings as a Percentage of GARs Who Were 15 Years of Age and Older at Landing by Years in Canada and Year of Arrival

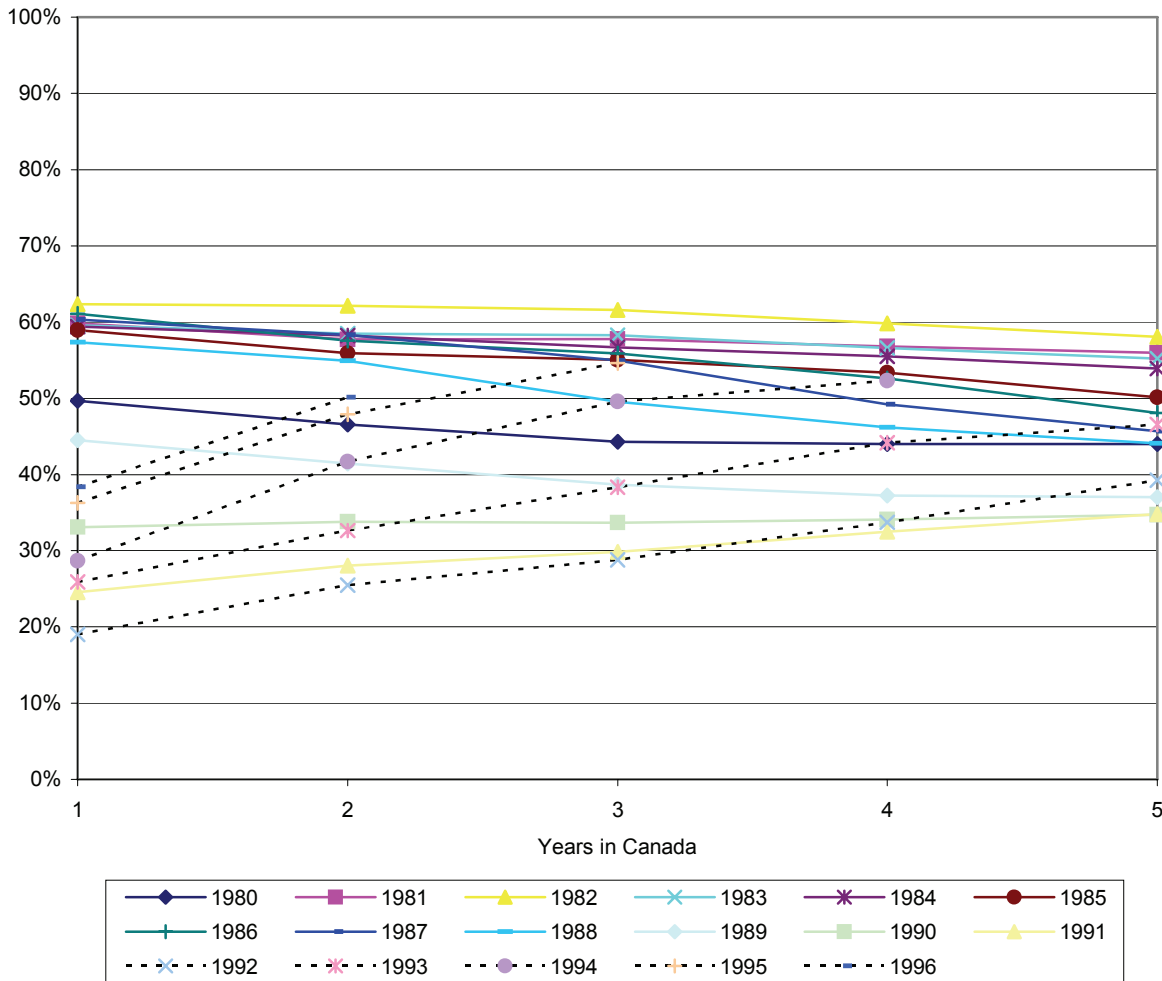


Figure B.2 clearly shows the influence of the various economic expansion and recession periods on GARs' initial employment earnings. GARs in the 1980 cohort recorded the highest average annual employment earnings at \$16,801 with the recession. Average first year employment earnings decreased for individuals in the 1981 and 1982 landing years before turning upwards and peaking in 1987 (\$15,318). Then, the 1990–91 recession hit: average first year employment earnings decreased continuously and substantively until 1992 and then remained in a steady range between \$8,000 and \$8,600 for subsequent years, which is about half of the average first year employment earnings for GARs who landed in the early 1980s. Despite the economic recovery in the second half of the 1990s, average annual employment earnings remained lower. Moreover, average initial annual employment earnings for all landing years were well below the average for Canadian taxfilers, which ranged from about \$26,000 to \$29,000 over the last two decades.²⁷

²⁷Source: Special request made to CCRA for Tax Statistics.

Figure B.2: Average Employment Earnings in the First Calendar Year After Landing for GAR Taxfilers (in 1998 Constant Dollars)

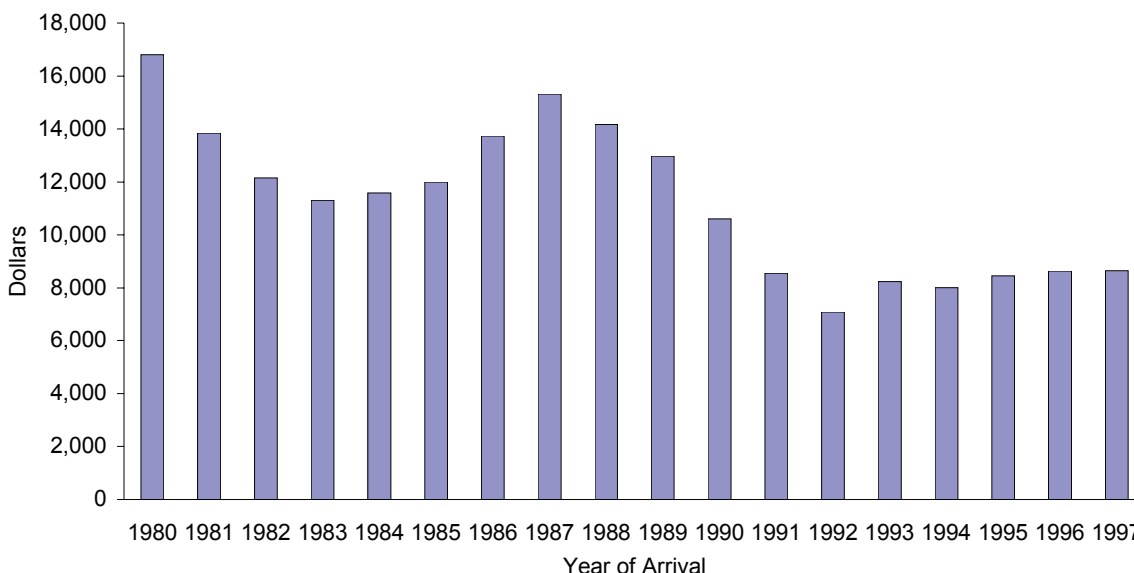
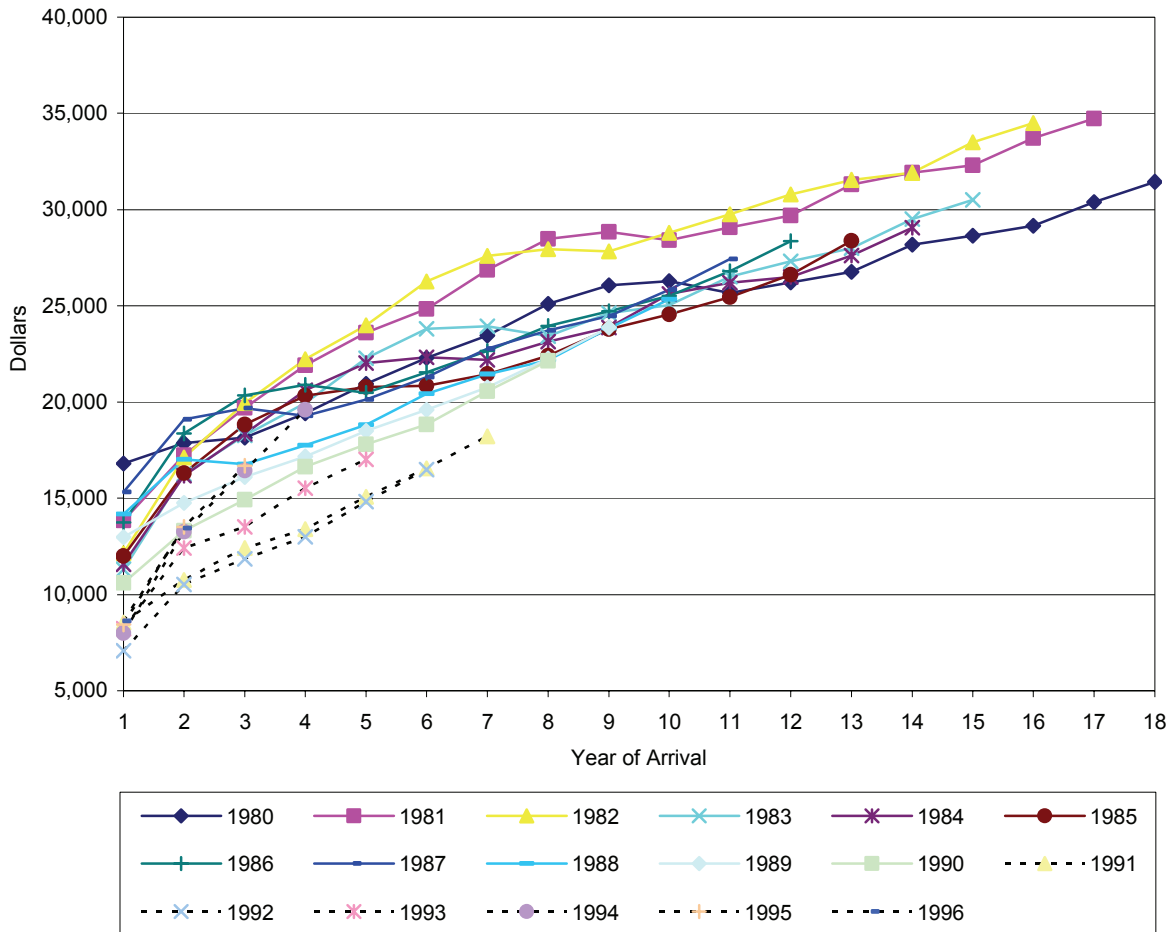


Figure B.3 shows that, over time, the situation improves as GARs find jobs and become more established in their new country. There is a rapid increase in average employment earnings over the 10 years after landing and it continues to increase more gradually, thereafter. As with the general decline in employment earnings of recent immigrants compared with earlier immigrants noted in other studies, Figure B.3 shows a similar phenomenon for recent GARs. On average, employment earnings quickly increased in the early years for recent GARs, but it is not clear that recent cohorts will do as well as previous cohorts, especially given their lower starting employment earnings. As illustrated in Figure B.3, recent GARs continued to receive less annual employment earnings in subsequent years relative to earlier cohorts of GARs.

The reasons behind the decline in average employment earnings of recent GARs, especially in the first years, are unclear. It is possible that changes in the characteristics of GARs who landed in Canada in the 1990s — for example, gender, age, education and other factors (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 1998b) such as countries of origin — may have influenced this conspicuous decline in average employment earnings for recent GARs. We also speculate that the reduction in the number of single male GARs, which resulted in an increase in the proportion of GAR households headed by females who tend to have lower educational attainment than male GARs, may also have contributed to the decline in the first year average employment earnings. Part of the explanation for the observed lower average employment earnings of GARs in the 1990s may relate to some data limitations. As mentioned earlier, the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) rebate in 1990 and the Child Tax Benefit (CTB) in 1993 provided a financial incentive to low income individuals to file a tax return. This may have contributed to increase the number of taxfilers with low earnings and, consequently, reduced the average employment earnings observed in the 1990s.

Figure B.3: Average Annual Employment Earnings of GAR Taxfilers By Year of Arrival and Years in Canada (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



Gender

Figures B.4 and B.5 show average annual employment earnings for male and female GARs at four periods subsequent to their arrival in Canada — years 1, 3, 5, and 7. We would like to emphasize three points illustrated in these figures. First, male GARs, as expected, have consistently higher employment earnings than female GARs across all landing years and follow-up periods. Seven years after arriving in Canada, male GARs who landed between 1980 and 1991 reported higher average employment earnings than female GARs — a difference that varied between \$6,100 and \$11,775.²⁸ Second, both male and female GARs experienced increases in their employment earnings subsequent to their arrival. Employment earnings, however, grew more quickly for males than females. Third, the deterioration in employment earnings between recent and earlier GARs can be observed for both male and female GARs. These patterns are consistent with those observed for other categories of immigrants (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 1998a).

²⁸Male GARs reported between \$20,214 and \$31,763 and female GARs reported between \$14,114 and \$19,988.

Figure B.4: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Male GAR Taxfilers By Year of Arrival and Years in Canada (in 1998 Constant Dollars)

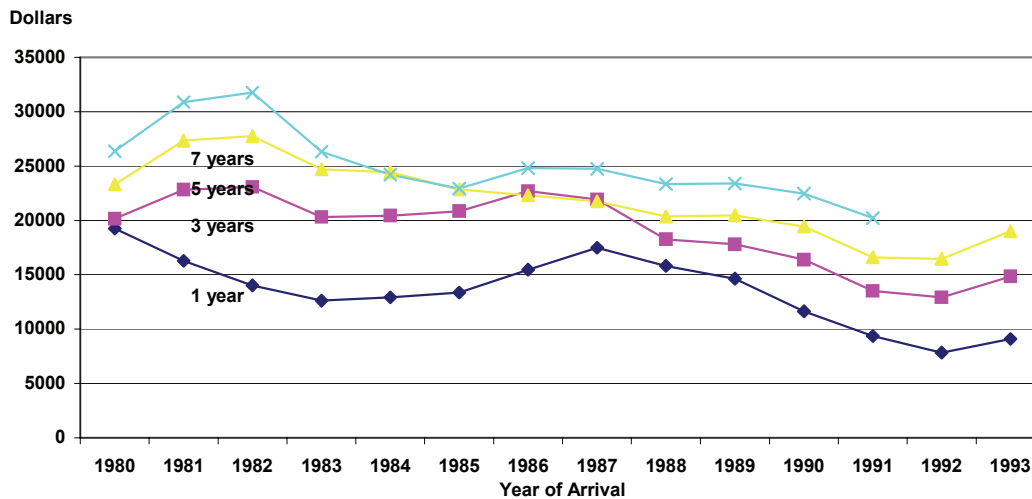
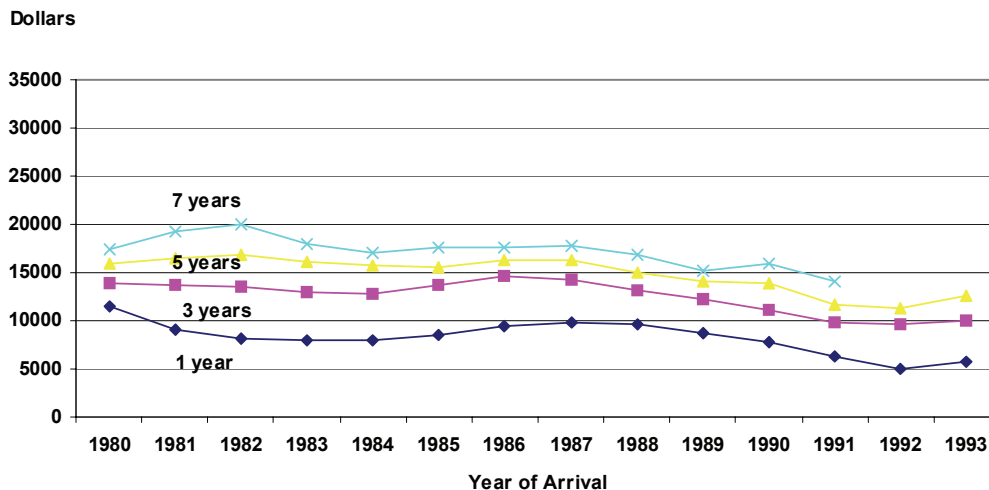


Figure B.5: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Female GAR Taxfilers By Year of Arrival and Years in Canada (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



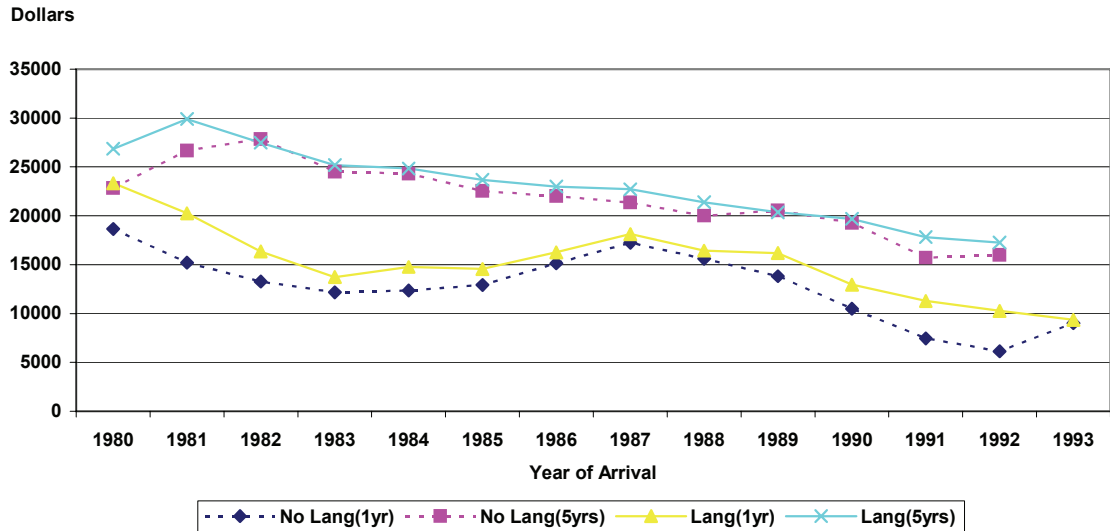
Knowledge of an Official Canadian Language at Landing

The next two figures, B.6 and B.7, look at average annual employment earnings for male and female GARs by their self-reported ability to speak at least one of the official languages.²⁹ Although GARs who declared that they do not speak English or French at landing do find work, these figures show that GARs who can speak one of the official languages have higher

²⁹At consultation workshops organized by the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation on behalf of CIC, workshop participants repeatedly raised concerns about the unreliability of the data collected about the knowledge of a Canadian language on LIDS. One workshop participant said, “government-assisted refugees tell Canadian representatives what they have to in order to pass security to Canada.” Language assessments are not made before government-assisted refugees arrive in Canada; data are largely self-reported. Without objective measures, underestimation or overestimation of language ability may be common, especially in the areas of basic reading and writing required for entry-level work (Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, 2002). Consequently, we need to interpret findings using this variable cautiously.

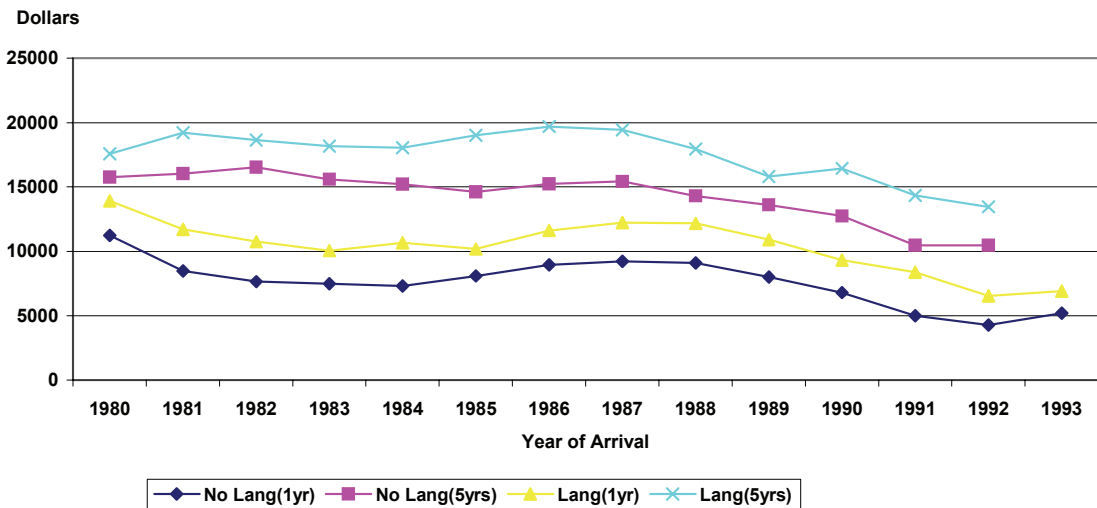
employment earnings, on average. The information on IMDB allows us to examine only the self-reported language ability of GARs at arrival. While this information is useful, this static view of language ability at landing does not consider the acquisition of language skills in subsequent years after landing, which may affect economic outcomes.

Figure B.6: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Male GARs By Language Skills at Landing and Year of Arrival (in Constant 1998 Dollars)



Notes: No Lang: Speak neither English nor French at Landing.
Lang: Speak English, French, or both languages at Landing.

Figure B.7: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Female GARs By Language Skills at Landing By Year of Arrival (in Constant 1998 Dollars)



Notes: No Lang: Speak neither English nor French at Landing.
Lang: Speak English, French, or both languages at Landing.

Figure B.6 shows male average employment earnings one year after landing are higher for those who can speak at least one official language than for those who do not. This gap in earnings, although slightly smaller, remains five years later. The earnings gap also exists between female GARs who speak one or both of the official languages and those who do not. The

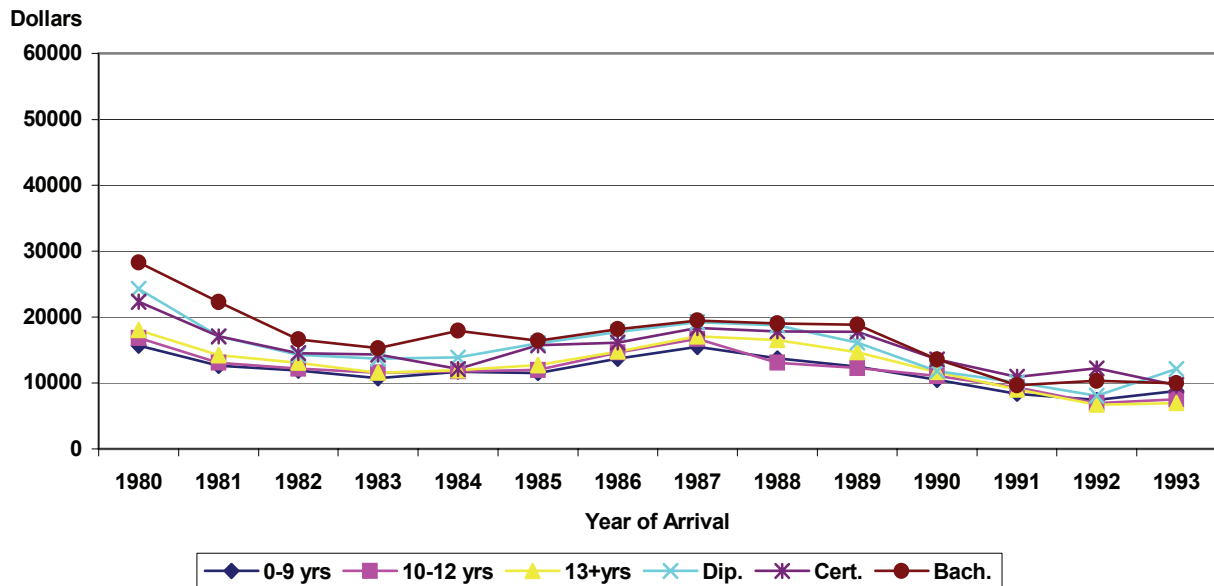
difference is larger at both follow-up periods, implying that the financial benefits associated with having knowledge of an official Canadian language may be higher for females (see Figure B.7).

In sum, both male and female GARs who indicated an ability to speak one of the official languages at landing, reported higher average employment earnings than GARs who did not.

Education at Landing

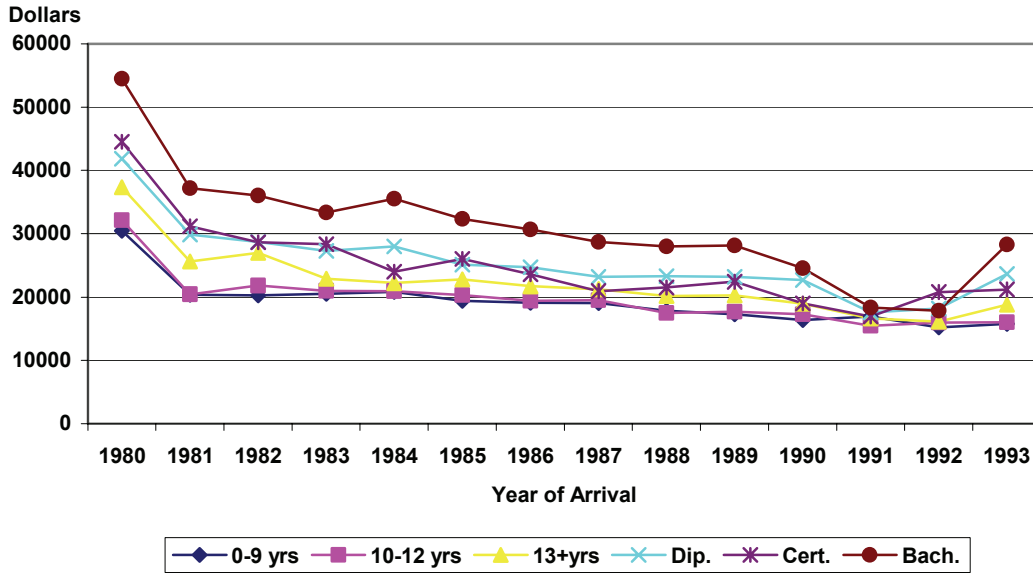
In general, education has a positive effect on employment earnings for both male and female GARs. Figures B.8a and B.8b show the average employment earnings for male GARs in the first and fifth year after landing for six educational levels.³⁰ Average employment earnings are higher in both follow-up periods for male GARs with higher levels of education. The earnings differentials between education levels are larger at five years. Table B8.a shows that for male GARs in the 1980 cohort, individuals with 0 to 9 years of schooling reported average employment earnings of \$15,675; \$16,820 for those with 10 to 12 years, \$18,009 for 13 or more years, \$24,269 for a diploma, \$22,347 for a certificate, and \$28,302 for a bachelor degree. However, this difference in employment earnings by education level in the first year after landing was noticeably smaller for recent cohorts.

Figure B.8a: Average Annual Employment Earnings of Male GARs in the First Year After Landing By Educational Attainment and Year of Arrival (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



³⁰The number of GARs with a Master's degree or PhD is small and has been excluded from the analysis.

Figure B.8b: Average Annual Employment Earnings of Male GARs Five Years After Landing By Educational Attainment and Year of Arrival (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



Subsequent employment earnings five years after landing increased for all GARs, however employment earnings for individuals with a higher educational attainment increased to higher levels, especially for male GARs who landed in the 1980s. The smaller difference in earnings by education level for GARs who landed in the 1990s infer that education had a weaker influence on employment earnings for recent male GARs. This is also consistent with other studies covering the entire population of immigrants.

Figures B.9a and B.9b illustrate contradictory results regarding the effects of education on employment earnings for female GARs. The most striking result is that education has a much smaller effect on the employment earnings of female GARs in the first year after landing than for male GARs (see figures B.8a and B.9a). However, education does impact on subsequent employment earnings. The gaps in employment earnings between the different educational levels are more pronounced in the employment earnings of female GARs five years after landing — this education differential is apparent across all cohorts (see Figure B.9b).

Figure B.9a: Average Employment Earnings for Female GARs in First Year after Landing By Education and Year of Arrival (in 1998 Constant Dollars)

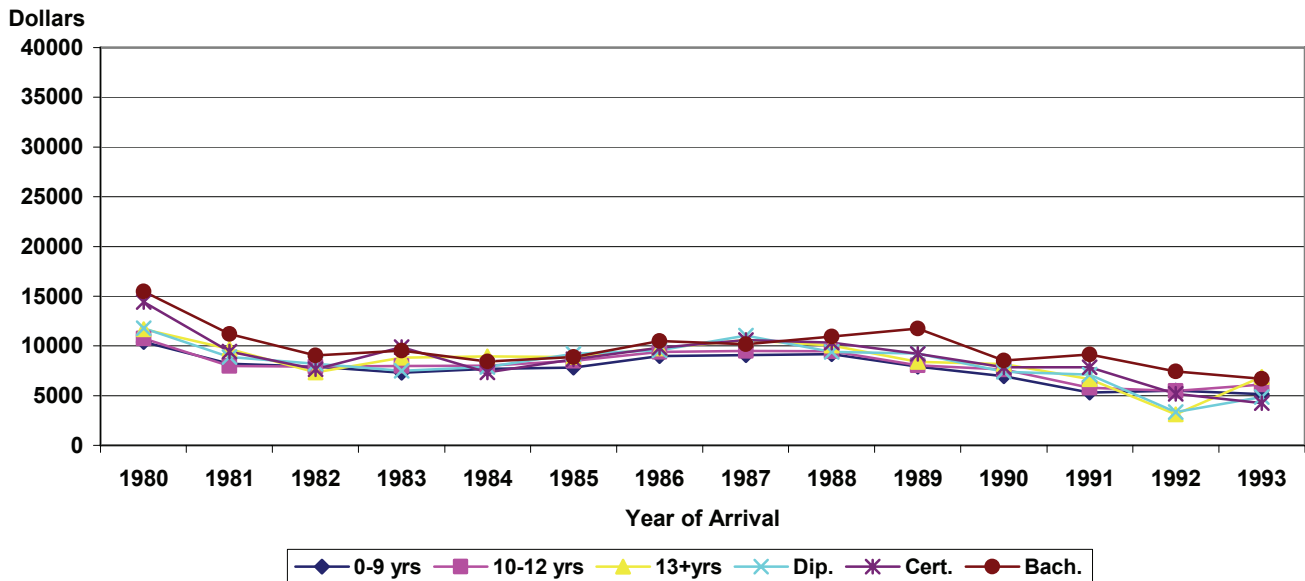
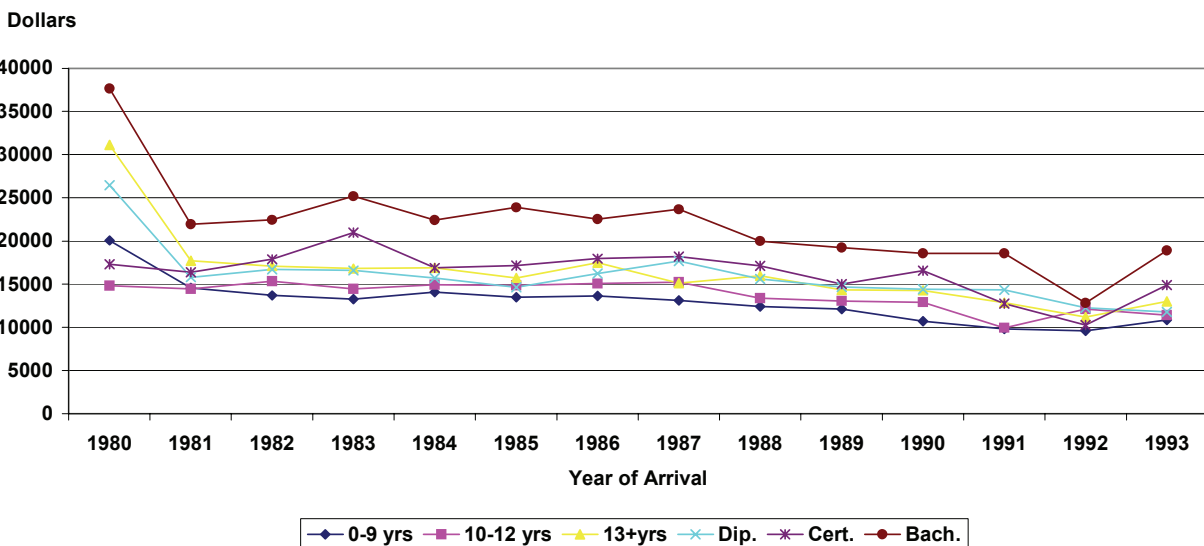


Figure B.9b: Average Employment Earnings for Female GARs Five Years after Landing By Education and Year of Arrival (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



Age at Landing

We examined the average employment earnings for two age groups — 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 — since the proportion of GARs in the 45 years of age and older group is small. Figures B.10 and B.11 show the average employment earnings for male and female GARs who were 18 to 24 years of age and 25 to 44 years of age at the time they arrived in Canada. Young male GARs tended to earn less, on average, in both the first and fifth year after landing in comparison with males in the older age group (25 to 44), probably due to their lack of Canadian and foreign

experience. Employment earnings in the first year are surprisingly similar for female GARs in both age groups; however, employment earnings of older female GARs increased more quickly and were higher than employment earnings of younger female GARs five years later.

Figure B.10: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Male GARs Aged 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 at Landing By Year of Arrival (in Constant 1998 Dollars)

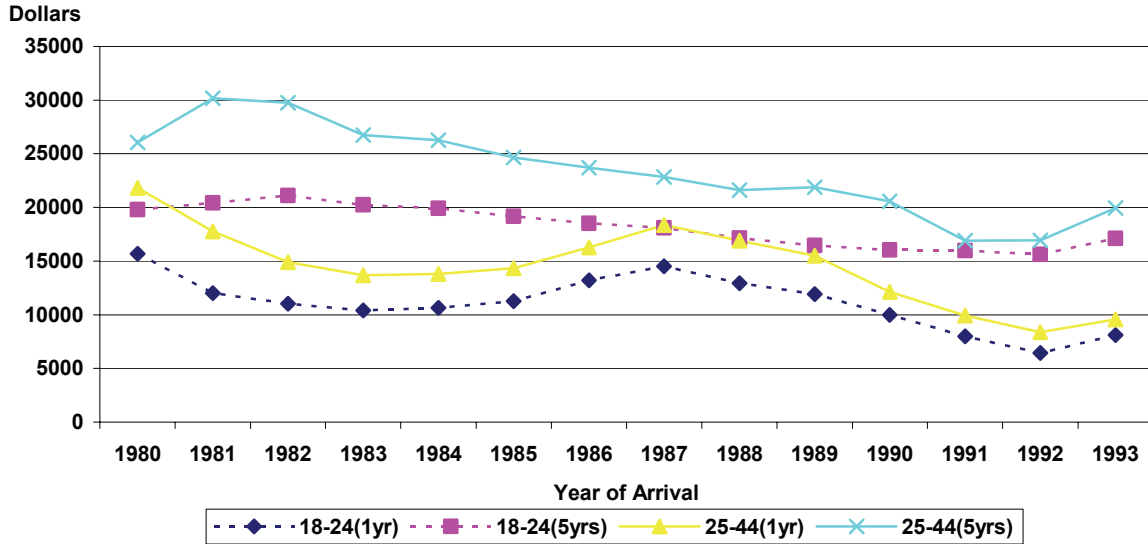
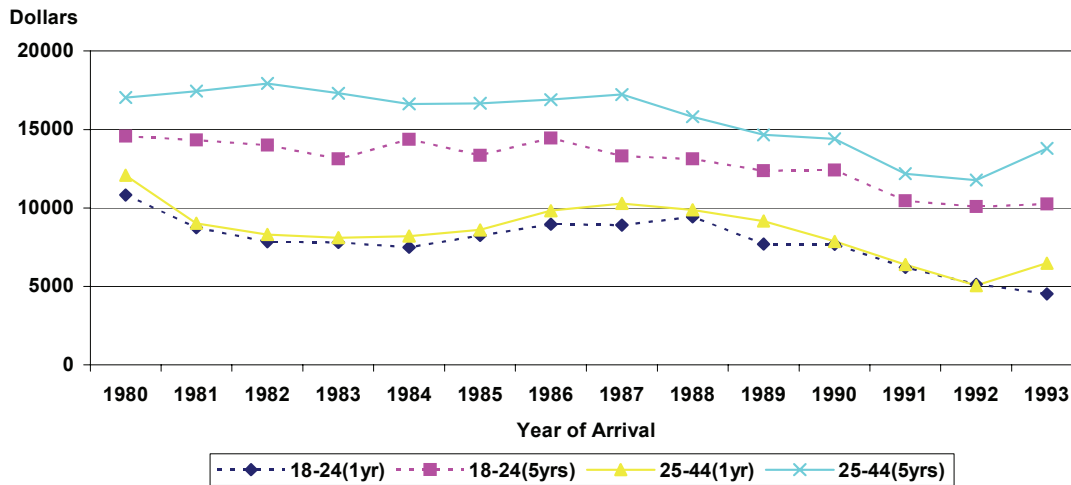


Figure B.11: Average Annual Employment Earnings for Female GARs Aged 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 at Landing By Year of Arrival (in Constant 1998 Dollars)



Source Areas

We looked at average annual employment earnings for four source areas³¹ and found marked differences (figures not included). By far, male GARs from Eastern Europe reported considerably higher average employment earnings at both one and five years after landing in

³¹The number of GARs from the United States is small and has been excluded from the analysis.

comparison with the other areas. As seen in Table A.9, GARs from Eastern Europe are more likely than GARs from other source areas to have a higher level of education.

Results from the other three source areas were mixed. Average employment earnings in the first year were not that different for male GARs from South and Central America, Asia and the South Pacific, and Africa and the Middle East (with the exception of a few landing years). This similarity in average employment earnings among these three areas is also true for employment earnings in the fifth year after landing. The earnings differentials for female GARs by source country followed similar patterns to those observed for male GARs.

One speculation is that many GARs from South and Central America, Asia and the South Pacific, and Africa and the Middle East belong to visible minority groups and, thus, may experience greater barriers in the labour market, which has a negative effect on their earnings. This view is supported by other studies that also found differences in earnings between foreign-born visible minority groups and other groups. Pendakur and Pendakur (1996) reported a large earnings differential for visible minority immigrants compared with white immigrants. Hou and Balakrishnan (Health Canada, 1999) observed lower income levels for foreign-born, visible minority group members compared with others in the labour force.

2. Self-Employment

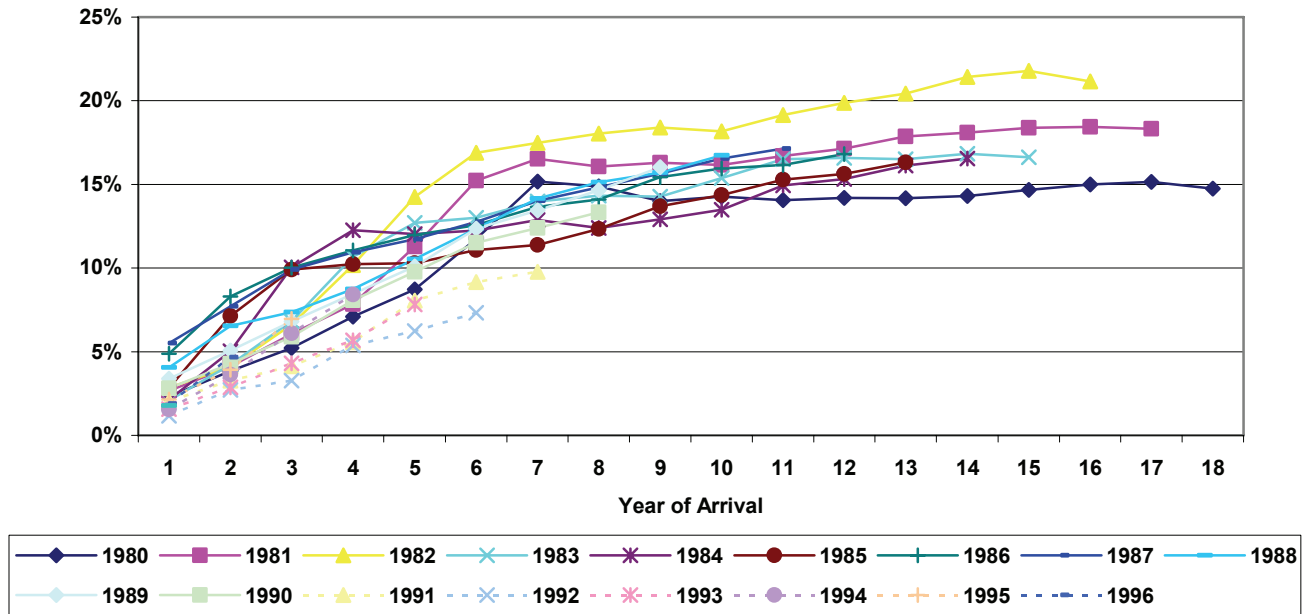
Table B.12 shows the proportion of GARs who reported self-employment income in the years following their arrival in Canada across landing years.³² A very low proportion of GARs engaged in self-employment in the first two years after landing, perhaps due to their lack of networks and Canadian business experience and knowledge. On average, approximately three per cent of GAR taxfilers reported self-employment income in the first year after landing and approximately five per cent in the second year. In the third year after arrival there is, however, a sharp increase in the proportion of GAR taxfilers in the self-employment group up to the seventh year (10 to 17 per cent). The proportion, then, continues to grow steadily and converges in the 12th year to between 14 and 17 per cent. The rates of self-employment in the 1982 cohort were much higher than the rates for the other cohorts five and more years after landing, and thus, will be treated as an anomaly.

The average self-employment income for GAR taxfilers is much lower than the average employment earnings for GAR taxfilers — average self-employment income for GARs who landed from 1980 to 1988 was between \$1,800 and \$6,000 in the first year after landing and \$6,500 to \$8,700 in the tenth year (tables not included).

One CIC study (1998) explains the entry into self-employment as one of two choices: (1) “first choice” for able GARs who selected the challenge of self-employment and (2) “last choice” for GARs who have few or no opportunities in the labour market and for whom self-employment becomes the only strategy to earn money. Although a lack of evidence prevented the study from determining which pathway was most likely for GARs, it did suggest that the last chance pathway is a more likely explanation to the entry into self-employment.

³²The number of self-employed taxfilers is calculated as the sum of taxfilers who reported earnings from self-employment on the IMDB. This includes individuals with net income from business, professional, commission, farming, fishing, and limited partnership. Hence, it is possible for a taxfiler to report more one or more of these types of incomes, but the number of “self-employed” reflects the sum of filers reporting any of these types of income.

Figure B.12: Proportion of GAR Taxfilers Who Reported Self-Employment Income by Year of Arrival and Years in Canada



The decision to participate in self-employment or paid employment, however, should not be viewed as a discrete way of participating in the labour market. GARs and others may move between employment and self-employment depending on the economic and personal circumstances or participate in both activities in order to use one to supplement income from the other. Li (2001) found that highly skilled immigrants who have been in Canada for a longer period have a higher propensity toward self-employment. This group of individuals would be more likely to succeed in paid employment and thus would be choosing to enter self-employment. Another study by Li (2001) purports that limited opportunities in the labour market for immigrants and the existence of better alternatives in self-employment over employment are reasons why immigrants choose to become self-employed or involved in an ethnic business. Over time, both self-employed and salaried immigrants increase their earnings, but the increase is larger for salaried immigrants than self-employed immigrants.

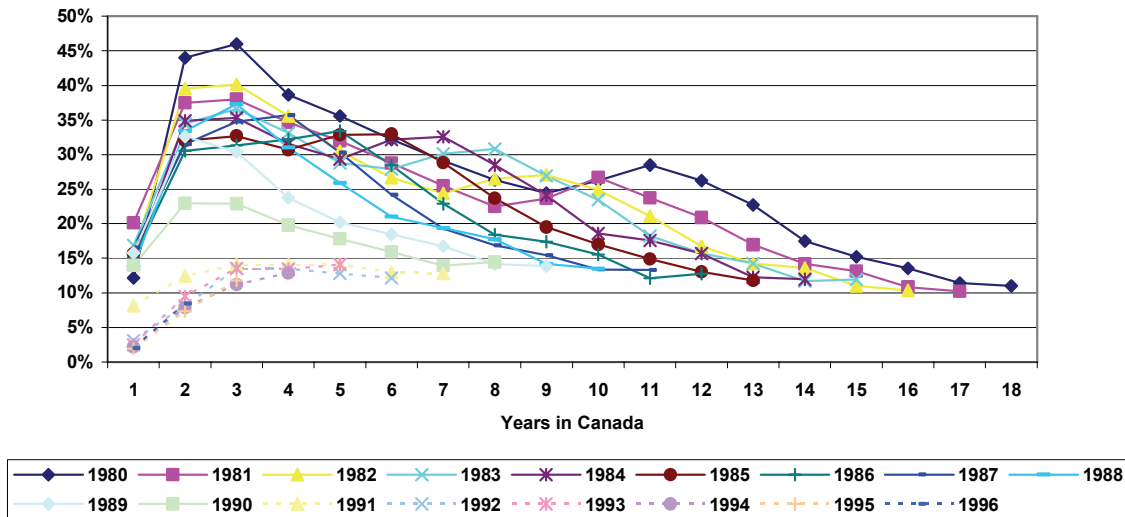
3. EI Benefits

Individuals' eligibility for Employment Insurance (EI) benefits are dependent upon their labour market attachment and specific qualifying requirements such as the number of hours worked in a specific period³³ and insurable earnings. Therefore, we expect the analysis of EI outcomes to follow patterns observed for employment earnings outcomes.

³³Before the *Employment Insurance Act* was introduced in 1996, people qualified for benefits based on the number of insurable weeks they worked (an insurable week is defined as one with 15 or more hours of work) and not the number of hours they worked. Other changes associated with the EI Act include the following: different method to calculate EI benefits; clawback of benefit above a specific income threshold, a low-income family supplement to increase benefits to EI claimants in families with income below a specific level, and new programs and services. More relevant to GARs and their labour market integration needs, the 1996 EI Act restricted access to training programs to EI claimants or reachback clients and eliminated the labour market language training programs.

Figure B.13 shows the proportion of GAR taxfilers who reported EI benefits by years in Canada and year of arrival. The rate in the first year after landing is low because GARs generally have not participated in the labour force long enough to qualify for EI benefits. The rate in the first year after landing also varies considerably for different landing years, partly reflecting prevailing economic circumstances. It is obvious, however, that the proportion of GAR taxfilers with EI benefits is particularly low for GARs who arrived in the 1990s, which follows the documented lower average employment earnings found for recent GAR taxfilers.

Figure B.13: Proportion of GAR Taxfilers Who Reported EI Benefits By Years in Canada and Year of Arrival (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



The rate increases sharply in the second and third years, as more GARs find employment, lose their jobs, and qualify for EI benefits. Over time, the proportion of GAR taxfilers per landing cohort reporting EI benefits converge to a rate somewhere around 13 per cent — a level similar to that found for Canadian taxfilers.

Table C.1 reports EI receipt for GAR taxfilers in the first and fifth year after landing by selected subgroups and year of arrival in order to determine characteristics that may affect EI reciprocity. The first column defines each subgroup. This bivariate analysis of the relationship between EI receipt and individual characteristics does not control for other characteristics (which require a multivariate analysis). Thus, results may be misleading and need to be interpreted cautiously. The subgroup analysis shows the following results:

- Higher rates of EI receipt in the first year after landing are generally associated with GARs in the following subgroups: male, ability to speak one of Canada’s official languages at landing, and higher educational attainment.
- More recent GARs were less likely to receive EI than earlier arrivals in the first year. We speculate that more recent GARs had lower employment rates and employment earnings, which combined with the new EI Act, disqualified these individuals from becoming eligible for EI.

- The proportion of GAR taxfilers who reported EI benefits increased among all subgroups at five years after landing, reflecting the increase in attachment to the labour market regardless of individual characteristics.

Table C.1: EI Outcomes for Subgroups of GARs, One and Five Years After Landing

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Per Cent with EI Benefits														
One year after landing														
Total	12	20	16	17	14	16	15	17	14	16	14	8	3	2
Male	13	24	19	19	16	18	17	19	16	20	18	11	4	3
Female	10	12	10	13	10	11	10	11	9	9	8	4	2	1
Male — Speak English/French	18	26	24	28	24	26	25	26	22	24	24	16	8	6
Male — No English/French	13	24	17	15	14	15	14	17	14	18	13	7	2	3
Female — Speak English/French	17	18	16	25	20	21	21	18	12	15	16	9	5	2
Female — No English/French	9	12	9	10	8	9	8	9	8	7	5	2	1	1
0 — 9 years of school	11	19	15	13	11	12	10	13	14	14	12	6	3	2
Bachelor's Degree	11	16	13	17	15	16	14	18	13	15	14	11	5	2
Five years after landing														
Total	36	32	31	29	29	33	33	30	26	20	18	14	13	14
Male	36	31	30	29	30	35	37	33	28	22	21	18	17	14
Female	35	34	32	29	27	29	27	24	23	18	13	8	8	11
Male — Speak English/French	30	25	27	24	25	31	29	29	23	22	20	18	17	17
Male — No English/French	37	32	31	30	32	37	40	35	29	22	21	18	16	17
Female — Speak English/French	28	30	27	32	23	24	29	25	25	20	15	9	9	17
Female — No English/French	36	35	33	29	28	30	27	24	22	17	13	7	7	8
0 — 9 years of school	39	34	32	30	33	36	33	30	26	19	18	12	11	13
Bachelor's Degree	26	24	25	21	24	24	29	28	24	22	18	16	14	16

4. Social Assistance Benefits

Immediately arriving in Canada, GARs are eligible for up to one year of income support from the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP).³⁴ Tax information does not differentiate RAP benefits from social assistance payments, which means that these payments are grouped together on the IMDB. In addition, the caveats listed about using the IMDB to examine social assistance payments in Section II require us to interpret the following results with caution.

As documented, many GARs have difficulties entering the labour market in the one-year period, and many GARs find themselves applying for social assistance once they have exhausted their RAP benefits. Therefore, a high proportion of GARs receive RAP or social assistance in the initial years after arrival in Canada, as they are expected to have weaker labour market attachment than other immigrants during the early settlement period.

³⁴According to an official at CIC's Refugee Branch, 10 per cent of GARs are admitted under the Joint Assistance Sponsorship Program (JAS) and receive assistance for up to two years. Upcoming new legislation will increase JAS's program duration to three years.

Figure B.14 shows the proportion of GAR taxfilers who reported social assistance benefits by years in Canada for the 1991 to 1996 cohorts. Unlike employment earnings and EI, social assistance became part of the tax statistics only starting in 1992, therefore this study can analyze social assistance data only since 1992. In the first year after landing, between 60 and 75 per cent of GAR taxfilers received social assistance.³⁵ These numbers likely represent a lower bound for the actual percentages if there are other members in the family who filed a tax return in the same year, since only one person in the family would be required to report social assistance payments. Following this there is a rapid decline in the proportion of GAR taxfilers with social assistance payments in the subsequent years. Based on only a few data points, it appears that about 40 per cent of GAR taxfilers received social assistance after being in Canada for five or six years. The available data does not allow us to analyze the pattern for a longer period, even though it appears that the proportions would continue to decline, but would take a very long time before meeting the Canadian averages that were between 8 and 10 per cent in 1993 to 1998.

Figure B.14: Proportion of GAR Taxfilers Who Reported Social Assistance Benefits by Years in Canada and Year of Arrival

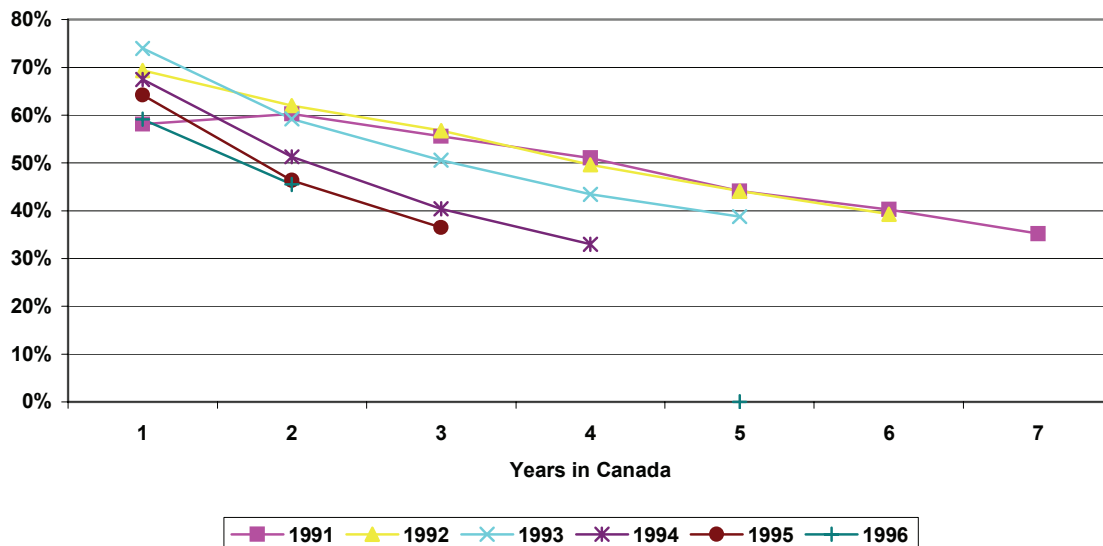
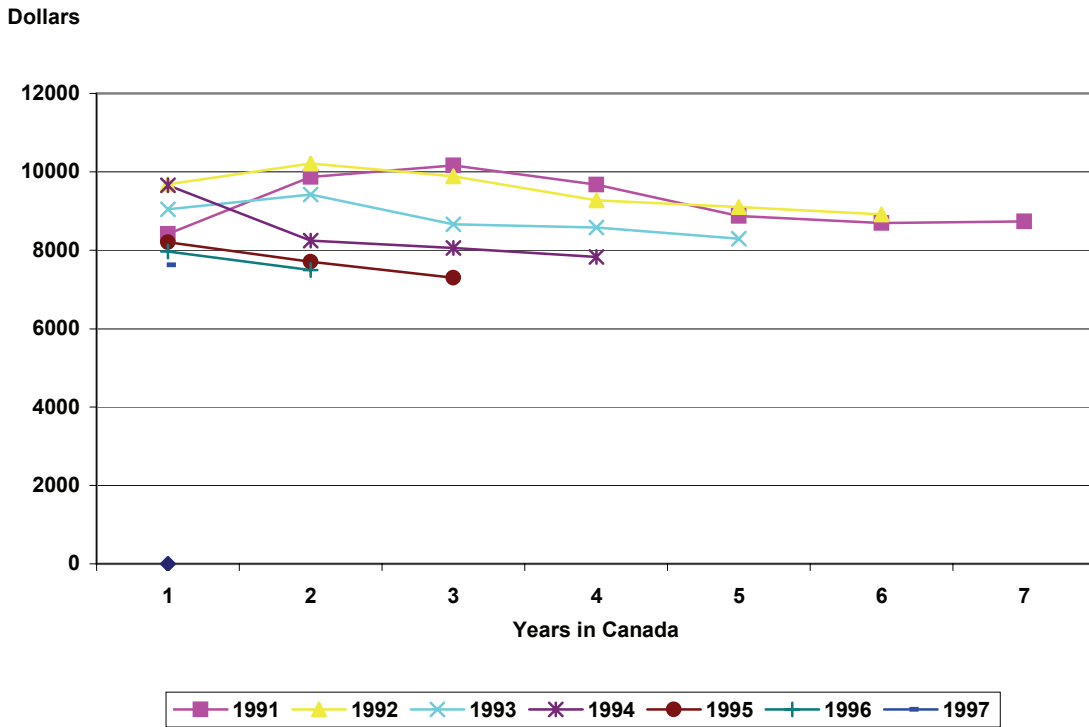


Figure B.15 looks at the average annual social assistance payments received by GARs. Unlike other outcomes examined so far, average social assistance benefits do not experience a sharp, continuous decrease after the first year of landing. The average amounts varied more in the first three years after landing (between \$7,300 and \$10,000) and converged to a narrower range afterwards (\$8,000–\$9,000). These average social assistance payments are higher than averages reported by Canadian taxfilers (between \$3,400 and \$6,600). The range of the payments for GAR taxfilers suggests that social assistance may be the main source of income for most of the year for many of the GAR taxfilers with social assistance benefits and that more families make up the composition of GARs on welfare since single individual welfare rates are low.

³⁵Although 100 per cent of GARs could have received RAP benefits, the reported proportion in the first year after landing is much lower due to GARs finding employment and becoming ineligible for RAP, GARs who arrived early in the previous year and had already exhausted their 12 months, and the “family” or “case” concept in RAP and social assistance where only one member of the family reports the payments (e.g. For a couple receiving social assistance, only one person, usually the applicant, would report social assistance payments on his/her income tax.)

Figure B.15: Average Annual Social Assistance Benefits Received by GAR Taxfilers By Year of Arrival and Years in Canada (in 1998 Constant Dollars)



Consistently, high proportions of GARs received social assistance four to five years after landing, which supports the idea that entry into the labour market is difficult for many GARs.

Table C.2 shows the proportion of GAR taxfilers claiming social assistance payments in the first and fifth year after landing by characteristics that may affect the receipt of social assistance. We examined this outcome using three cohorts (1991 to 1993). Given the analytical issues identified earlier, we need to interpret these numbers with caution.³⁶ Also the cautions expressed earlier about a bivariate analysis also apply here. The first column defines each subgroup. The subgroup analysis shows the following results:

- A higher proportion of male GAR taxfilers received social assistance payments than female GARs in the first year.³⁷ The proportions in receipt of social assistance for both males and females decrease over the next few years. At five years after landing, the difference in receipt between male and female GARs is much less, but remains relatively high (38 to 45 per cent) compared with the Canadian rates.
- Generally, more male than female GARs who can speak one of the official Canadian languages at landing received social assistance in the first year. Five years later, fewer

³⁶Looking at average social assistance payments for these subgroups may not be as informative as the proportion of taxfilers with this source of income, as there is no clear pattern or difference in social assistance payments among different traits, probably due to the fact that once on social assistance, the benefit levels are determined by the case characteristics such as family composition. One piece of evidence to support this idea is the only notable difference in average social assistance payment between GARs aged 18 to 24 at landing compared with individuals in the 25 to 44 age group for both males and females. The reasons for lower benefits associated with younger GARs is that these individuals are likely to be single individuals, while older GARs are in families.

³⁷This may be an artifact of the male adult in the family reporting the social assistance payments, instead of the female adult.

male GARs who had declared higher language ability at landing received social assistance. For females, the picture is less clear. For females who landed in 1991 and 1992, there is little difference in the proportions of GARs who received social assistance five years later. For females in the 1993 cohort, individuals with language ability were less likely to receive social assistance.

- Although a similar proportion of male GARs in the 18 to 24 and 25 to 44 age groups received social assistance in the first year, male GARs in the younger age group were less likely to receive social assistance five years after landing compared with the older age group. The differential between these age groups is less distinct for females.
- GARs with higher education at landing were less likely to be in receipt of social assistance five years later.

Table C.2: Social Assistance Receipt for Subgroups of GARs One and Five Years After Landing

	1991	1992	1993
Per Cent with Social Assistance Benefits	%	%	%
One year after landing			
Total	58	69	74
Male	63	82	87
Female	51	51	52
Male — Speak English/French/both	54	76	86
Male — No English/French	70	86	88
Female — Speak English/French/both	51	60	65
Female — No English/French	51	49	48
Male — aged 18 to 24 at arrival	61	80	84
Male — aged 25 to 44 at arrival	63	83	88
Female — aged 18 to 24 at arrival	54	57	58
Female — aged 25 to 44 at arrival	50	47	47
0 to 9 years of school	58	64	69
Bachelor's degree	57	69	80
Five years after landing			
Total	44	44	39
Male	43	45	40
Female	45	43	38
Male — Speak English/French/both	37	38	32
Male — No English/French	48	48	42
Female — Speak English/French/both	44	43	29
Female — No English/French	45	43	40
Male — aged 18 to 24 at arrival	32	37	31
Male — aged 25 to 44 at arrival	45	45	40
Female — aged 18 to 24 at arrival	46	46	38
Female — aged 25 to 44 at arrival	44	41	35
0 to 9 years of school	51	49	46
Bachelor's degree	37	32	26

IV. POTENTIAL BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

The findings in the previous sections on economic outcomes suggest that GARs experience initial difficulties in becoming established in their new country. This is not surprising, as making new contacts and applying for jobs in a different country take time. The documentation, however, also suggest that securing a job has become even more difficult for recent GARs compared with previous GARs and other immigrants. Finding a job is one of the most important steps to a successful settlement and a priority for many GARs. Employment provides GARs with new networks and self-sufficiency.

Service providers who work with GARs indicate that GARs are motivated to work, but face a range of barriers, which may curtail their efforts to find and successfully maintain employment. This section discusses some of the key barriers to employment for refugees and immigrants, as documented in the literature.

A. Language Barriers, Canadian Experience, and Skills

Many GARs arrive in Canada unable to speak either English or French. The lack of knowledge of one of Canada's official languages is a major barrier to labour force integration. Learning a second language, however, especially as an adult, is difficult and requires continuing and substantive effort. Individual characteristics such as gender, age at immigration, and marital status affect GARs' ability to advance their language skills.

Language proficiency is an important determinant of employment earnings among newcomers in Canada — studies have shown that greater aptitude in an official Canadian language augments productivity in the Canadian labour market (Chiswick & Miller, 2000). Pendakur (2000) found that immigrants without knowledge of an official Canadian language, depending on where they settled in Canada, were penalized between 10 and 18 per cent in wages and had 30 per cent less chance of getting a job. This is especially true for female spouses of refugees (Toronto Board of Health, 1991). Our analysis showed that GARs who indicated an ability to speak English, French, or both languages at landing experienced higher employment earnings, on average, in both the initial year after landing and subsequent years.

We saw in the statistical profile that there is a sizable proportion of GARs with foreign credentials. The difficulty in getting foreign credentials recognized is a well-known problem that affects not just GARs, but all immigrants. Refugees and immigrants may need to spend a lot of money and effort to have their credentials recognized. These issues impede refugees and immigrants' ability to practice their professions and *push* them into more menial jobs or increase unemployment or underemployment.

Even refugees with acceptable qualifications initially may face limited employment opportunities because of their lack of Canadian work experience and networks. The lack of experience, particularly in the Canadian context, is a major barrier to employment. According to a former refugee, "Lots of people come with experience and diplomas. Here, everybody asks for Canadian experience — we can't have that when we come" (Abu-Laban et al., 1999).

The lack of understanding of how the "system" works in Canada, what services exist, and refugees without basic information about Canadian history, culture, and living in a multicultural society, can also represent potential barriers to employment (Social Planning Council of Peel, 1996). As one refugee stated "many issues make our adjustment in Canada

harder and slower, such as lack of understanding in Canadian income tax system, travel loan money, misunderstanding on relationship between Ottawa (Revenue Canada) and newcomers about paying back travel loan” (Abu-Laban et al., 1999).

B. Depression and Other Mental Health Problems

Many refugees arriving in Canada are survivors of torture who perceive the tasks of learning to understand and be understood in a second language overwhelming, primarily because they have experienced psychologically damaging events (Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture, 1995). The Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture suggests that victims find it hard to concentrate for long periods of time — also, painful memories may be triggered by seemingly innocuous events occurring in a program setting. Refugees often deal with depression as a result of trauma, grief, or losses incurred in their home country, which may override the effectiveness of any settlement or integration services being offered to them.³⁸

Women and girls constitute one in two recent GARs arriving in Canada, and many individuals in this group have experienced torture. Female survivors may have been subjected to sexual abuse, so attending coeducational programs may be difficult for them — evidence suggests that women-only ESL classes have been more successful than mixed classes (Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture, 1995).³⁹ Many refugee women are diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), yet labelling PTSD as an illness rather than a normal response to extreme trauma oppresses and further scars refugee women (Prairie Women’s Health Center of Excellence, 2001). The same authors reported that refugee women are also frustrated and hampered at having to discuss with service providers topics that evoke extreme emotions in a language that is not their mother tongue.

C. Other Barriers to Employment

The observed shifts in source countries will continue to bring culturally diverse peoples in Canada who do not speak English or French; cultural differences can affect employment — cultural meanings of work to individuals, cultural competence, and culturally different labour market conventions and job-search behaviour (Bauder & Cameron, 2002). On the other hand, the apparent lack of awareness or understanding of different cultures by “mainstream” Canadians is a source of irritation for many refugees (Prairie Women’s Health Center of Excellence, 2001). For example, many cultural attitudes may oppose women working outside the home. Other factors, such as discrimination in hiring, can also impede successful integration into the labour market.

While the lack of knowledge of English or French is not the only theme in the discussion of barriers to employment, it is a very significant one. GARs often have multiple barriers to

³⁸In one study with single mothers on welfare, the findings support the view that depression is a barrier to self-sufficiency (M. J. Coiro, *Depressive Symptoms Among Women Reduce Likelihood of Successfully Moving Off Welfare* <http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/Wharticle.html>, March 6, 2002).

³⁹At consultation workshops organized by SRDC on behalf of CIC, one workshop participant indicated that funding has been cut for women-only language classes in some provinces. Another participant mentioned that a job-readiness program for women only is offered at her agency in Saskatchewan and is perceived to be successful because its focuses on women only, which eliminates the competition with male refugees or other immigrants. Another participant mentioned that women-only classes are still available in British Columbia (Social Research and Demonstration Corporation, 2002).

employment, and their poor economic outcomes suggest they need significant amounts of services and support that address these barriers directly.

V. SUMMARY

This paper has provided a statistical description of selected characteristics and economic outcomes of GARs who arrived in Canada in the last two decades.⁴⁰ The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of GARs provided in this report show this population to be a very diverse and disadvantaged group. This diversity underscores the variety of circumstances that can result in poor labour market outcomes. The design of labour market interventions targeted at GARs need to acknowledge this diversity and the challenges it presents.

- A total of 226,387 GARs arrived in Canada between 1980 and 2000. GARs, however, are a small proportion of total immigrants who settled in Canada; they represented five per cent of all immigrants who arrived in Canada in 2000.
- The number of GARs resettling in Canada has decreased in the 1990s — the average annual number of GARs arriving in Canada was approximately 13,000 in the 1980s and 8,400 in the 1990s.
- Before 1990 more male GARs were arriving in Canada, but more recently a similar number of male and female GARs have made Canada their new home annually.
- Approximately 8 in 10 principal applicants arriving in Canada since 1980 were male. Females, more commonly, arrive in Canada as the spouse of a principal applicant. Similar to the decrease in the number of male GARs observed after 1990, there was a comparable decrease in the number of male principal applicants. This lower representation of males in the total principal applicants after 1990 is likely to be responsible for the reduction in the difference observed between the number of male and female GARs who arrived in Canada in the last decade.
- The source areas and countries from which GARs come from have varied greatly over the years, reflecting the location of wars and crises around the world.
- Two in three GARs who arrived in Canada over the last two decades are young adults (23 per cent were ages 15 to 24 at landing) or prime working age adults (44 per cent were ages 25 to 44 at landing). Overall, GARs tended to be younger than the Canadian population — more specifically, they are over-represented relative to the Canadian population in the youth and “prime” working age groups.
- The majority of GARs are sent to urban centres in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, British Columbia, and Manitoba—approximately 67 per cent in the last two decades.
- Many principal applicant GARs have relatively low levels of education compared with other immigrants and Canadians as a whole. More female GARs tended to have a low education level — 0 to 9 years of schooling — compared with male GARs.

⁴⁰While we have presented a detailed profile of GARs, there are other elements that were not explored, specifically those that may explain the changes in total employment earnings over time such as mobility, jobs, wage progression, and hours worked.

Recent GARs, however, tended to be better educated.

- In most landing years, more than two out of three GARs could not speak English or French upon arrival; in some years the number was as high as 9 out of 10 GARs. There is a wide variety of first languages spoken by GARs, and the majority language spoken by GARs may change from year to year, depending on the top source country in that year.
- Almost all principal applicant GARs who arrived in Canada indicated their intention to work in Canada upon landing (96 per cent), but 70 per cent of these individuals reported that they cannot speak one of the official Canadian languages at landing.
- A sizable percentage of principal applicants were classified as skilled and technical workers, intermediate and clerical skill level workers, and professionals.

Overall, the economic outcomes observed for GARs in the years following their arrival in Canada are remarkably consistent with trends already documented for the immigrant and Canadian populations. The analysis of GARs' economic outcomes were accompanied by several caveats, and thus, need to be interpreted cautiously. The analysis indicates the following:

Employment Earnings

- GARs who arrived in the midst of the 1990–91 recession or shortly after experienced lower rates of employment in the initial year of arrival compared with GARs who arrived earlier.
- Average employment earnings of GAR taxfilers in the first year were low and well below the averages for Canadian taxfilers.
- Average employment earnings of recent GARs in the initial year following their arrival have decreased relative to individuals who arrived in the 1980s, making it difficult for recent GARs to catch up to the earning levels experienced by earlier cohorts. The reasons for this decline are not clear, but it is possible that the decrease in both absolute and relative numbers of single male applicants and compositional shifts in source areas may have contributed to the decrease.
- Male average employment earnings one year after landing are highest for those who indicated their ability to speak one of the Canadian languages at landing — this earnings gap remains five years later. Financial benefits associated with having knowledge of one of the Canadian languages seem to be higher for female GARs.
- Education appears to have a positive effect on employment earnings, but this effect is not as large as expected. The differences in average female employment earnings by level of education are more pronounced five years after landing, but these differences remain rather small for men.
- Employment earnings varied markedly across subgroups. In particular, the following traits were associated with higher employment earnings: male, self-reported ability to speak one of the two official languages at landing, older immigrants, and from Eastern Europe.

Self-Employment

- A low proportion of GARs are engaged in self-employment in the initial years after landing, but this proportion increases sharply several years after landing.
- Differences in income for individuals who are engaged in self-employment and individuals with employment earnings suggest that self-employment would be a viable option but may be viewed as a “last chance” for GARs who are trying to maximize their economic returns.

EI Benefits

- Over time, the proportion of government-assisted refugee taxfilers per landing cohort who report EI benefits converges to around 13 per cent — a level comparable to the rest of the Canadian population.

Social Assistance Benefits

- A high percentage of GARs received social assistance benefits in the first year of landing. Although the percentage of GARs reporting this source of income decreased quickly, there is still a very high percentage of GARs in receipt of social assistance after being in Canada for five or six years.
- The average annual social assistance payments five years after landing are roughly between \$8,000 and \$9,000 (in 1998 constant dollars). The range of average annual payments observed in this report suggests that many GARs are in low-income situations, and social assistance may be their main source of income.

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