

Re-Settlers: The Secondary Migration of Immigrants Between Canada's Cities

Jack Jedwab
Executive Director
Association for Canadian Studies

Immigration is an important source of population growth for Canada's cities. Immigrants tend to flock to the country's larger cities with the smaller centres benefiting from lesser such inflows. As much as attracting immigrants to certain cities has become a growing priority of the federal officials underlying the challenges that this entails is the retention of immigrants in areas outside the larger metropolitan areas. That which follows examines the extent to which secondary migration of immigrants occurred between selected cities and which were their preferred choices for such relocation. Cross-tabulated census data for the year 2001 are examined for migratory flows that took place between 1996 and 2001.

Highlights:

- Halifax incurred a slight loss on the basis of secondary migration of immigrants with the biggest decline against Toronto.
- In the case of Quebec City it suffered substantial losses on the basis of such secondary migration with Montreal being the biggest beneficiary followed by Toronto.
- The biggest loss of immigrants on the basis of secondary movement was in Montreal and the biggest beneficiaries of such departures were Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary.
- Ottawa emerged as a net gainer from such secondary migrants doing best against Montreal while losing to Toronto.
- Despite its substantial gains against Montreal perhaps surprisingly Toronto actually experienced losses on the basis of secondary migration with however other Ontario cities being the chief beneficiaries and notably Hamilton and Oshawa
- Winnipeg also lost out on the basis of secondary migration with Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto being the biggest beneficiaries
- Regina lost out as well with Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto as the biggest gainers.
- The biggest gainer from secondary migration was Calgary with Montreal and Edmonton supplying the most secondary migrants
- Unlike Calgary, the city of Edmonton was a net loser of secondary migrants with Calgary and Toronto emerging as the principal beneficiaries
- Finally Vancouver emerged as a net gainer with Montreal and Winnipeg as the principal sources while losing to Abbotsford and Calgary.

Halifax incurred a slight loss on the basis of secondary migration of immigrants with the biggest decline against Toronto.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Halifax	Left Halifax	
Canada	2550	3600	-1050
Abbotsford	0	0	0
Calgary	85	125	-40
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	10	10	0
Edmonton	70	110	-40
Greater Sudbury	10	0	10
Halifax	0	0	0
Hamilton	40	50	-10
Kingston	45	0	45
Kitchener	30	50	-20
London	70	10	60
Montréal	130	160	-30
Oshawa	25	70	-45
Ottawa - Hull	140	390	-250
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	130	385	-255
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	15	0	15
Québec	0	20	-20
Regina	10	40	-30
Saskatoon	15	30	-15
Sherbrooke	10	0	10
St. Catharines - Niagara	35	30	5
St. John's	100	35	65
Saint John	75	10	65
Thunder Bay	0	0	0
Toronto	375	1155	-780
Trois-Rivières	0	0	0
Vancouver	170	255	-85
Victoria	25	95	-70
Windsor	10	15	-5
Winnipeg	60	40	20
Non-CMA	1005	915	90

In the case of Quebec City it suffered substantial losses on the basis of such secondary migration with Montreal being the biggest beneficiary followed by Toronto.

Quebec City

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant population		
	Québec	Québec	
Canada	1305	5020	-3715
Abbotsford	0	0	0
Calgary	10	65	-55
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	95	30	65
Edmonton	0	15	-15
Greater Sudbury	10	10	0
Halifax	20	0	20
Hamilton	0	155	-155
Kingston	15	25	-10
Kitchener	15	105	-90
London	10	45	-35
Montréal	525	2455	-1930
Oshawa	0	25	-25
Ottawa - Hull	50	505	-455
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	20	315	-295
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	25	185	-160
Québec	0	0	0
Regina	0	10	-10
Saskatoon	10	0	10
Sherbrooke	35	65	-30
St. Catharines - Niagara	0	10	-10
St. John's	0	0	0
Saint John	0	10	-10
Thunder Bay	0	10	-10
Toronto	50	685	-635
Trois-Rivières	30	15	15
Vancouver	0	245	-245
Victoria	10	0	10
Windsor	0	20	-20
Winnipeg	15	15	0
Non-CMA	400	510	-110

The biggest loss of immigrants on the basis of secondary movement was in Montreal and the biggest beneficiaries of such departures were Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary.

Montreal

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Montreal	Left From Montreal	
Canada	13580	27790	-14210
Abbotsford	0	85	-85
Calgary	115	1235	-1120
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	230	70	160
Edmonton	195	365	-170
Greater Sudbury	20	15	5
Halifax	160	130	30
Hamilton	150	635	-485
Kingston	60	275	-215
Kitchener	65	455	-390
London	80	245	-165
Montréal	0	0	0
Oshawa	10	165	-155
Ottawa - Hull	1150	4245	-3095
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	850	3580	-2730
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	305	665	-360
Québec	2455	525	1930
Regina	30	25	5
Saskatoon	40	60	-20
Sherbrooke	800	240	560
St. Catharines - Niagara	65	220	-155
St. John's	30	15	15
Saint John	15	20	-5
Thunder Bay	0	0	0
Toronto	2475	10495	-8020
Trois-Rivières	265	65	200
Vancouver	865	2875	-2010
Victoria	65	255	-190
Windsor	105	465	-360
Winnipeg	315	155	160
Non-CMA	3820	4450	-630

Ottawa emerged as a net gainer from such secondary migrants doing best against Montreal while losing to Toronto.

Ottawa

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.) Came to Montreal	Left Ottawa	
Canada	14475	10610	3865
Abbotsford	0	10	-10
Calgary	305	300	5
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	15	0	15
Edmonton	450	260	190
Greater Sudbury	80	0	80
Halifax	385	130	255
Hamilton	280	340	-60
Kingston	410	105	305
Kitchener	225	355	-130
London	415	230	185
Montréal	3580	850	2730
Oshawa	80	90	-10
Ottawa - Hull	0	0	0
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	0	0	0
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	0	0	0
Québec	315	20	295
Regina	120	30	90
Saskatoon	95	10	85
Sherbrooke	70	35	35
St. Catharines - Niagara	55	135	-80
St. John's	155	10	145
Saint John	40	0	40
Thunder Bay	80	10	70
Toronto	3175	3900	-725
Trois-Rivières	25	0	25
Vancouver	700	1045	-345
Victoria	110	290	-180
Windsor	145	240	-95
Winnipeg	325	220	105
Non-CMA	2840	1995	845

Despite its substantial gains against Montreal perhaps surprisingly Toronto actually experienced losses on the basis of secondary migration with however other Ontario cities being the chief beneficiaries and notably Hamilton and Oshawa.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Toronto	Left Toronto	
Canada	53515	57040	-3525
Abbotsford	150	175	-25
Calgary	1430	1740	-310
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	1590	825	765
Greater Sudbury	280	110	170
Halifax	1155	375	780
Hamilton	3815	7665	-3850
Kingston	1050	435	615
Kitchener	2600	3045	-445
London	2310	2160	150
Montréal	10495	2475	8020
Oshawa	2425	5410	-2985
Ottawa - Hull	4080	3290	790
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	3900	3175	725
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	175	115	60
Québec	685	50	635
Regina	305	30	275
Saskatoon	375	160	215
Sherbrooke	145	40	105
St. Catharines - Niagara	1250	2135	-885
St. John's	285	75	210
Saint John	115	60	55
Thunder Bay	235	85	150
Toronto	0	0	0
Trois-Rivières	0	15	-15
Vancouver	5595	5495	100
Victoria	275	530	-255
Windsor	1025	1860	-835
Winnipeg	1175	440	735
Non-CMA	10680	18360	-7680

Winnipeg also lost out on the basis of secondary migration with Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto being the biggest beneficiaries.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Winnipeg	Left Winnipeg	
Canada	4340	8370	-4030
Abbotsford	50	50	0
Calgary	230	1170	-940
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	235	470	-235
Greater Sudbury	0	10	-10
Halifax	40	60	-20
Hamilton	35	205	-170
Kingston	40	50	-10
Kitchener	15	115	-100
London	80	120	-40
Montréal	155	315	-160
Oshawa	15	50	-35
Ottawa - Hull	240	355	-115
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	220	325	-105
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	20	35	-15
Québec	15	15	0
Regina	65	60	5
Saskatoon	85	125	-40
Sherbrooke	10	0	10
St. Catharines - Niagara	10	95	-85
St. John's	0	0	0
Saint John	0	0	0
Thunder Bay	95	15	80
Toronto	440	1175	-735
Trois-Rivières	0	0	0
Vancouver	525	1610	-1085
Victoria	60	155	-95
Windsor	20	100	-80
Winnipeg	0	0	0
Non-CMA	1895	2040	-145

Regina lost out as well with Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto as the biggest gainers.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Regina	Left Regina	
Canada	875	2395	-1520
Abbotsford	0	0	0
Calgary	60	475	-415
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	15	295	-280
Greater Sudbury	0	0	0
Halifax	40	10	30
Hamilton	10	10	0
Kingston	20	10	10
Kitchener	25	50	-25
London	15	65	-50
Montréal	25	30	-5
Oshawa	0	0	0
Ottawa - Hull	35	120	-85
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	30	120	-90
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	0	0	0
Québec	10	0	10
Regina	0	0	0
Saskatoon	115	85	30
Sherbrooke	0	0	0
St. Catharines - Niagara	10	30	-20
St. John's	0	10	-10
Saint John	10	0	10
Thunder Bay	0	0	0
Toronto	30	305	-275
Trois-Rivières	0	0	0
Vancouver	70	280	-210
Victoria	0	35	-35
Windsor	0	10	-10
Winnipeg	60	65	-5
Non-CMA	345	510	-165

The biggest gainer from secondary migration was Calgary with Montreal and Edmonton supplying the most secondary migrants.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Came to Calgary	Left Calgary	
Canada	16615	10505	6110
Abbotsford	210	165	45
Calgary	0	0	0
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	2270	1245	1025
Greater Sudbury	20	0	20
Halifax	125	85	40
Hamilton	65	90	-25
Kingston	45	30	15
Kitchener	95	55	40
London	185	55	130
Montréal	1235	115	1120
Oshawa	35	25	10
Ottawa - Hull	305	310	-5
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	300	305	-5
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	10	10	0
Québec	65	10	55
Regina	475	60	415
Saskatoon	415	125	290
Sherbrooke	30	0	30
St. Catharines - Niagara	35	35	0
St. John's	75	50	25
Saint John	15	10	5
Thunder Bay	140	0	140
Toronto	1740	1430	310
Trois-Rivières	0	0	0
Vancouver	2410	1740	670
Victoria	330	280	50
Windsor	75	45	30
Winnipeg	1170	230	940
Non-CMA	5035	4290	745

Unlike Calgary, the city of Edmonton was a net loser of secondary migrants with Calgary and Toronto emerging as the principal beneficiaries.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Edmonton	Edmonton	
Canada	10315	10620	-305
Abbotsford	80	70	10
Calgary	1245	2270	-1025
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	0	0	0
Greater Sudbury	25	10	15
Halifax	110	70	40
Hamilton	60	50	10
Kingston	75	30	45
Kitchener	30	140	-110
London	115	60	55
Montréal	365	195	170
Oshawa	0	0	0
Ottawa - Hull	270	475	-205
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	260	450	-190
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	10	25	-15
Québec	15	0	15
Regina	295	15	280
Saskatoon	230	105	125
Sherbrooke	10	0	10
St. Catharines - Niagara	65	50	15
St. John's	55	50	5
Saint John	10	35	-25
Thunder Bay	25	10	15
Toronto	825	1590	-765
Trois-Rivières	0	0	0
Vancouver	1415	1755	-340
Victoria	195	220	-25
Windsor	45	85	-40
Winnipeg	470	235	235
Non-CMA	4300	3090	1210

Finally Vancouver emerged as a net gainer with Montreal and Winnipeg as the principal sources while losing to Abbotsford and Calgary.

Geography: Canada (01) 20000	Immigrant Statu: Immigrant population	Sex (3): Total - Sex	Age Groups (16): Total - Age groups
	Vancouver		
Canada	27760	26440	1320
Abbotsford	1500	2285	-785
Calgary	1740	2410	-670
Chicoutimi - Jonquière	0	0	0
Edmonton	1755	1415	340
Greater Sudbury	15	10	5
Halifax	255	170	85
Hamilton	430	310	120
Kingston	160	165	-5
Kitchener	255	160	95
London	355	200	155
Montréal	2875	865	2010
Oshawa	80	100	-20
Ottawa - Hull	1145	720	425
Ottawa - Hull (Ont. part - Partie Ont.)	1045	700	345
Ottawa - Hull (Que. part - Partie Qué.)	100	15	85
Québec	245	0	245
Regina	280	70	210
Saskatoon	240	255	-15
Sherbrooke	20	20	0
St. Catharines - Niagara	65	110	-45
St. John's	120	0	120
Saint John	45	15	30
Thunder Bay	110	20	90
Toronto	5495	5595	-100
Trois-Rivières	0	20	-20
Vancouver	0	0	0
Victoria	1650	1470	180
Windsor	155	295	-140
Winnipeg	1610	525	1085
Non-CMA	7160	9250	-2090