

HOW IMMIGRANTS ARE DOING IN NOVA SCOTIA

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Immigrant Earnings:

- An average immigrant resident in Canada earned about \$780 in weekly earnings in 2009. In Nova Scotia, the average immigrant earned \$807 in weekly earnings.
- An average recent immigrant also earned more on weekly basis in Nova Scotia than in Canada overall (\$665 versus \$640).
- Immigrants aged between 25-44 years start to earn more than the equivalent non-immigrant, and continue to earn more up to the age of 65+.

Education Levels:

- About 42 percent of immigrants who reside in Nova Scotia have a university degree, while only 17 percent of all Nova Scotians have a university degree.

Unemployment Rate:

- In 2009, the unemployment rate among all immigrants in Canada was 10 percent. In Nova Scotia, however, the immigrant unemployment rate was lower – 7.4 percent only.
- Among recent immigrants (those who had arrived over the past five year period), the unemployment rate in Canada was 15 percent. In Nova Scotia, the rate among such immigrants was lower, 10.7 percent.

Job Types:

- About 21, 300 Immigrants worked in the province in 2009. Most popular jobs among them are management jobs; sales and services; social science, education, government and religion; and business finance and administrative jobs.
- About 88 percent of immigrants work in the service-producing industries. Most popular services industries include health care and social assistance; education; trade; and professional, scientific and technical services.

Urban and Rural Jobs:

- Many immigrants are now finding jobs in rural Nova Scotia. Between 2006 and 2009, immigrants in the rural labour force rose by about 47 percent. Out of 5,600 immigrants who had come to the province during 2004-09, about 1,200 found jobs in rural Nova Scotia. Most of them work in service producing sector.

Immigrant Retention in NS:

- In 2001, only about 48 percent of immigrants who had arrived in Nova Scotia during the past five years were still residing in the province. In 2006, about 64 percent of immigrants who arrived in the province during the past five years were still residing there. Immigrant inflows in the province have also increased by about 52 percent since 2001.
- The retention rate of immigrants in Nova Scotia has steadily increased from 48 per cent during the census period of 1996-2001 to 75 percent during the period of 2001-2006.
- More immigrants to the province are coming as provincial nominees (PNs).