



PATHWAYS TO
PROSPERITY

Promoting Welcoming Communities in Canada



VOIES VERS LA
PROSPÉRITÉ

Promouvoir des communautés accueillantes au Canada

Data Sources for Measuring Welcoming Communities

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Measuring Welcoming Communities Workshop

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Overview

- There are a range of data sources – some publicly available and some available to LIPs or via subscriptions – that can support the measurement of welcoming-community characteristics.
- This presentation provides examples of indicators from sources such as:
 - Lipdata.ca ([Link](#))
 - The Immigration Data Portal of the Community Data Program ([Link](#))
 - Statistics Canada
 - Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
 - Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)
 - Environics Institute

Overview

- It is important to define the group of interest (e.g., recent immigrants versus all immigrants), and consider, where possible, to break down indicators by demographic characteristics (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, etc.).
- The geographic level or unit of analysis varies depending on the source and indicator.
- Depending on the dataset, indicators may be available for administrative geographies (e.g., provinces/territories, census divisions, census subdivisions), statistical geographies (e.g., CMAs, CAs, census tracts), or custom geographies.

Access to Affordable, Adequate, and Suitable Housing

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of core housing need (living in an unsuitable, inadequate, or unaffordable dwelling and unable to afford alternative housing in the community)	Core housing need: number or % of examined immigrant-led households in core housing need; also broken down by immigration period Individuals Living in a Home that Does Not Meet Housing Standards: number or % of immigrants living in housing that needs major repairs; is overcrowded; unaffordable; or does not meet one or more standards	CMHC - Census LIPData.ca / CDP – Census
Housing affordability: % of before tax household income (from all sources) spent on housing (aiming for less than 30%)	Affordability: 30% or more of household income is spent on shelter costs Add-on: Cross-tabulation by immigrant status	CDP – Census

Access to Affordable, Adequate, and Suitable Housing

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of homeownership	Household Tenure: number or % of immigrants who own their dwelling, who rent	LIPData.ca / CDP – Census
Availability of subsidized, non-profit, and co-op housing	Social and affordable rental housing units: number of units; number of vacant units; average rents	CMHC – Social and Affordable Housing Survey
Rate of supply and vacancy of suitable housing (e.g., availability of rentals/homes for purchase that are accessible by transit and adequate in size)	Rental market indicators: vacancy rates and average rents for rental condominium apartments and private apartments in the Rental Market Survey	CMHC – Rental Market Survey

Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of employment of working age immigrants	Employment Rate: % of immigrants aged 15+ who are employed Additional indicator: Part-time / full-time	LIPData.ca/ CDP – Census
Rate and duration of unemployment of working age immigrants	Unemployment Rate: % of immigrants aged 15+ who are unemployed	LIPData.ca/ CDP – Census
Rate of self-employment	Class of Worker: % of immigrants who are self-employed	CDP – Census

Employment and Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicators	Source
Rate of underemployment: percent overqualified for the work they do, rate of employment in lower skilled jobs	Occupation (NOC): occupational distribution of employed immigrants Add-on: Cross-tabulation by highest education	CDP – Census
	Occupation – TEER (skill level) category (NOC): number of immigrants in each TEER category	Statistics Canada – Census (Special Interest Profile)

Access to Suitable Health Care, Including Mental Health Care

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Self-perceived physical health	Perceived health: % of immigrants who report very good or excellent; fair or poor health* *By geographical regions	Statistics Canada - CCHS
Self-perceived mental health	Perceived mental health: % of immigrants who report very good or excellent; fair or poor mental health* *By geographical regions	Statistics Canada – CCHS
Rate of self-perceived unmet mental health care needs	Perceived need for mental health care: % of immigrants whose needs are met; partially met; not met* *By geographical regions	Statistics Canada - CCHS

Access to Suitable Health Care, Including Mental Health Care

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Availability and accessibility of suitable health care services and providers, including mental health services and providers	Has a regular healthcare provider: % of immigrants* *By geographical regions	Statistics Canada - CCHS

Positive Attitudes Toward Immigrants of All Racial, Cultural, and Religious Backgrounds

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of hate crimes targeting immigrants across all racial, cultural, and religious backgrounds in the community	Police-reported hate crime: number of incidents and rate per 100,000 population*; number of incidents by motivation (race or ethnicity**); immigrants/newcomers to Canada***) *By provinces/territories and CMAs **By geographical regions ***Only available Canada-wide	Statistics Canada – Police-reported Information Hub
Evidence of positive attitudes toward immigration and toward racial, cultural, and religious diversity in the community	Public Opinion Measures: Attitudes toward immigrants and immigration**** ****National and regional/provincial/territorial data	Enviroics Institute IRCC

Access to Immigrant-Serving Agencies that Meet Immigrants' Needs

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Availability of immigrant-serving agencies with a variety of services (e.g., needs assessment, information and orientation, language training, employment-related services) – in person and/or online – provided in both official languages and other top languages of new arrivals	IRCC-funded service provider organizations listed in the service finder, including service type, language of service, and service format	IRCC – Find free newcomer services near you

Access to Transportation

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Availability of transportation options for access to regularly needed sites and services	Main mode of commuting for the employed labour force aged 15+: number or % of immigrants who used a car; truck or van; public transit; walked; bicycle or other method Commuting duration for the employed labour force aged 15+: number or % of immigrants who commute less than 15 min; 15-29 min; 30-44 min; 45-59 min; 60+ min	CDP – Census

Educational Opportunities

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of school attendance / Rate of attendance in educational programs	School attendance: number of immigrants attending elementary or secondary school; post-secondary Add-on: Cross-tabulation by age group	CDP – Census
Availability of schools for French speakers in local community	Eligibility and instruction in the minority official language: number of immigrant children who are or are not eligible; who have or have not been instructed in the minority official language	CDP – Census

Access to Services and Supports for French-Speaking Immigrants by French Speakers

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Availability of French immigrant-serving agencies with a variety of services – in person and/or online (e.g., needs assessment, information and orientation, employment-related services)	IRCC-funded service provider organizations listed in the service finder, including service type, language of service (French), and service format	IRCC – Find free newcomer services near you

Civic and Political Participation Opportunities

Toolkit Indicator	Relevant Data Indicator	Source
Rate of citizenship acquisition	Citizenship / Canadian citizenship: number or % of immigrants who are Canadian citizens Add-on: Cross-tabulation by period of immigration (except recent immigrants)	LIPData.ca/ CDP – Census

Additional Considerations and Other Resources

- For some characteristics and indicators, useful data may need to be requested directly from local bodies such as school boards, municipalities, public health units, police services, economic development agencies or immigrant-serving organizations.
- Some characteristics and indicators are not well covered by existing administrative or publicly available data sources. In these cases, communities may wish to develop their own surveys or other local data collection tools.

Additional Considerations and Other Resources

- Other resources:
 - Open Data Documentation, Extraction Service and Infrastructure (ODESI) ([Link](#))
 - Centre for Municipal and Local Data, Statistics Canada ([Link](#))
 - Canadian Index for Measuring Integration ([Link](#))
 - MTM Census Tool ([Link](#))