



Alberta Labour Force Profiles

Immigrants
2010

Government
of Alberta ■

Alberta ■

Highlights

Please, see the appendix for important definitions.

1. Immigrants in Alberta

- Of the 6.2 million working age immigrants in Canada, 9.5% lived in Alberta in 2010.
- Alberta's immigrants accounted for 19.9% of its working age population in 2010, the third highest percentage among the provinces.
- Alberta's annual share of new immigrants arriving in Canada increased from 6.3% in 2000 to 11.6% in 2010.

2. Labour Force Statistics of Immigrants in Alberta

- Alberta had the second highest labour force participation and employment rates of immigrants among provinces in Canada in 2010, behind Manitoba.
- The participation rates of Alberta's male and female immigrants were lower than the participation rates for all males and females in the province.
- Immigrants accounted for 21.0% of Alberta's unemployed people in 2010.
- Very recent immigrants experienced a higher unemployment rate than other immigrants or all Albertans.
- The unemployment rate of established immigrants was lower than the provincial rate.

3. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Industry

- The Services-Producing sector employed 77.6% of all working immigrants compared to 73.2% of all working people in Alberta in 2010.
- Trade (retail and wholesale) and Health Care and Social Assistance industries employed over one quarter of all working immigrants.

4. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Occupation

- The proportion of immigrants who were employed in the following occupations was higher than the proportion of all Albertans: Sales and services; Natural and applied sciences; Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities; Health; and Management.
- Of the very recent immigrants who were employed, 37.8% worked in the Sales and services occupations compared to 23.7% of all Albertans.

5. Full-time/Part-time Employment of Immigrants in Alberta

- A slightly higher percentage of employed immigrants, 83.7%, worked full-time compared to 82.4% of all employed people in Alberta.
- A higher percentage of Albertans aged 15-24 worked full-time compared to similarly aged immigrants.

6. Average Hourly Wage of Immigrants in Alberta

- On average, immigrants earned \$1.39 less per hour than all Albertans.

- Immigrants earned higher average hourly wages than all Albertans in the following four industries: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Utilities; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Public Administration.
- The average hourly wage of all Albertans was higher than the average hourly wage of immigrants in each occupational group except Natural and applied sciences.
- Among immigrants, established immigrants earned the highest average hourly wage followed by recent immigrants and very recent immigrants.

1. Immigrants¹ in Alberta

Figure 1 shows the distribution of Canada's immigrant working age population (WAP) by province in 2010. Alberta was home to 9.5% of Canada's working age population of immigrants.

Figure 1

| Canada's Immigrant Working Age Population by Province, 2010 | | |
|--|---|----------------|
| | Immigrant Population (15+ years) | % Share |
| Canada | 6,209,400 | 100.0% |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 7,000 | 0.1% |
| Prince Edward Island | 5,600 | 0.1% |
| Nova Scotia | 42,500 | 0.7% |
| New Brunswick | 22,900 | 0.4% |
| Quebec | 869,500 | 14.0% |
| Ontario | 3,393,800 | 54.7% |
| Manitoba | 157,600 | 2.5% |
| Saskatchewan | 57,800 | 0.9% |
| Alberta | 589,200 | 9.5% |
| British Columbia | 1,063,600 | 17.1% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 2 shows the percentage of immigrants in the working age populations of Canada and the provinces in 2010. Alberta had the third highest percentage of immigrants in its working age population, at 19.9%, behind British Columbia, at 28.5%, and Ontario, at 31.5%.

Figure 2

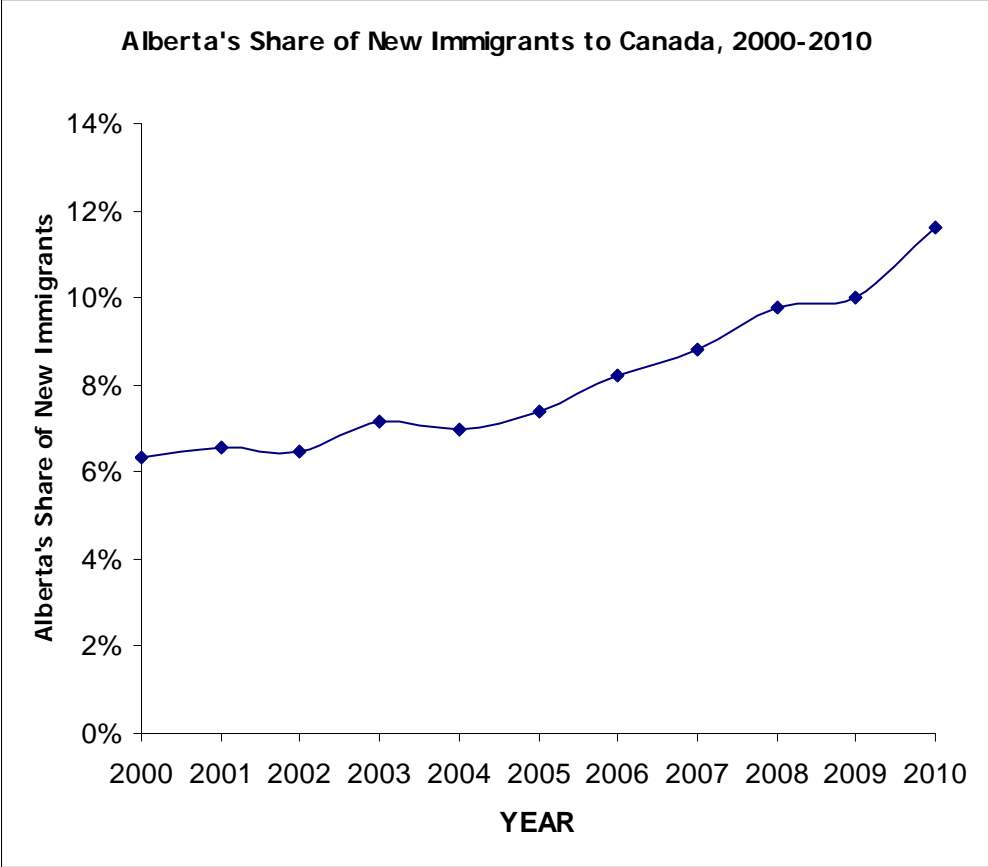
| Percentage of Immigrants in Working Age Population, Canada and Provinces, 2010 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Total Population (15+ years) | Immigrant Population (15+ years) | % Immigrant Population (15+ years) |
| Canada | 27,658,500 | 6,209,400 | 22.5% |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 428,100 | 7,000 | 1.6% |
| Prince Edward Island | 117,000 | 5,600 | 4.8% |
| Nova Scotia | 777,000 | 42,500 | 5.5% |
| New Brunswick | 616,800 | 22,900 | 3.7% |
| Quebec | 6,507,200 | 869,500 | 13.4% |
| Ontario | 10,790,600 | 3,393,800 | 31.5% |
| Manitoba | 941,000 | 157,600 | 16.7% |
| Saskatchewan | 790,900 | 57,800 | 7.3% |
| Alberta | 2,960,900 | 589,200 | 19.9% |
| British Columbia | 3,729,100 | 1,063,600 | 28.5% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

¹ Temporary foreign workers, refugee claimants and other non-permanent residents are not immigrants and, therefore, are excluded from this analysis.

Figure 3 shows Alberta's annual share of new immigrants arriving in Canada from 2000 to 2010. Alberta's share of Canada's new immigrants increased from 6.3% in 2000 to 11.6% in 2010. In this same period, Alberta's share of Canada's total population increased from 9.8% to 10.9%.

Figure 3



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Research Data Mart, Preliminary 2010 Data

2. Labour Force Statistics of Immigrants in Alberta

Figure 4

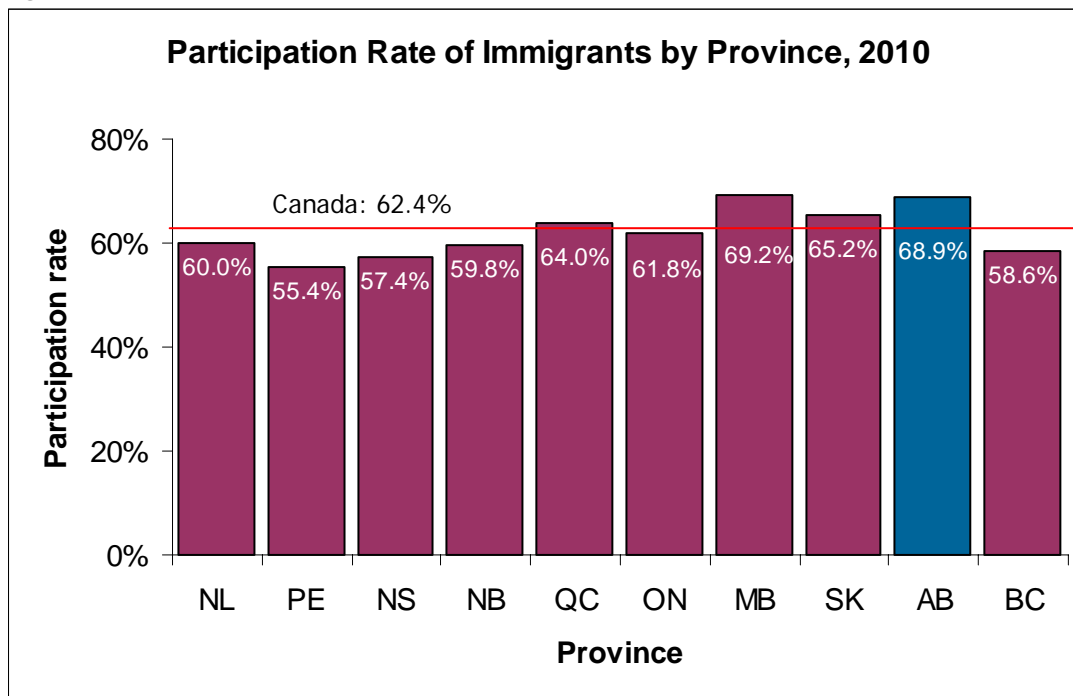
| Labour Force Statistics of Immigrants in Alberta, 2010 | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | All Albertans* (15+ years) | Immigrants (15+ years) |
| Working Age Population | 2,960,900 | 589,200 |
| Labour Force | 2,157,300 | 405,900 |
| Employment | 2,016,600 | 376,400 |
| Unemployment | 140,700 | 29,600 |
| Unemployment Rate | 6.5% | 7.3% |
| Participation Rate | 72.9% | 68.9% |
| Employment Rate | 68.1% | 63.9% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

* The term "Albertans" means the people or inhabitants or residents of the Province of Alberta

Immigrants made up 18.8% of Alberta's labour force. Figure 5 shows the labour force participation rate of immigrants in Canada by province in 2010. Immigrants in Alberta had the second highest participation rate among all provinces, behind Manitoba's rate of 69.2%. The Canadian rate for immigrants was 62.4%.

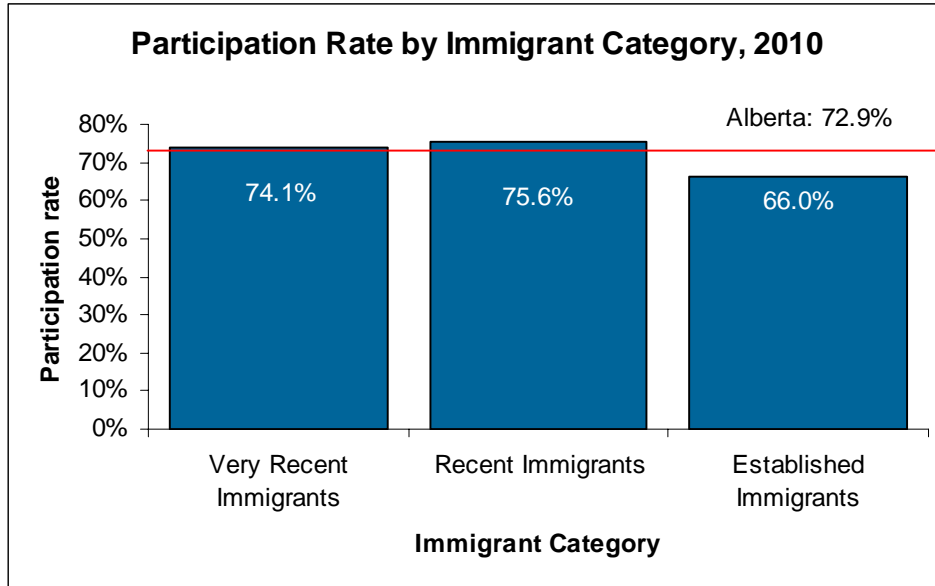
Figure 5



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 6 illustrates the labour force participation rate of Alberta's immigrants by category in 2010. Recent immigrants had the highest participation rate among the three immigrant categories, at 75.6%. This rate was 9.6 percentage points higher than the participation rate of established immigrants and 2.7 percentage points higher than the rate for all Albertans.

Figure 6

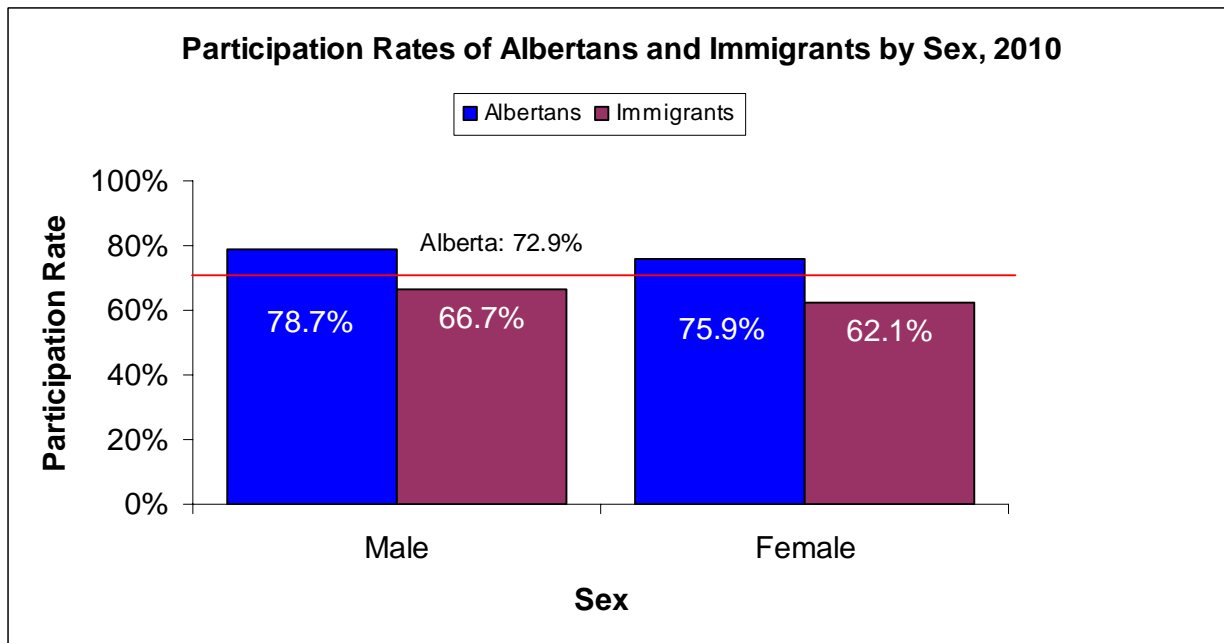


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010.

Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

Figure 7 shows the participation rates of all Albertans and immigrants by sex in 2010. The participation rates of all males and females in Alberta were higher than the corresponding rates for male and female immigrants.

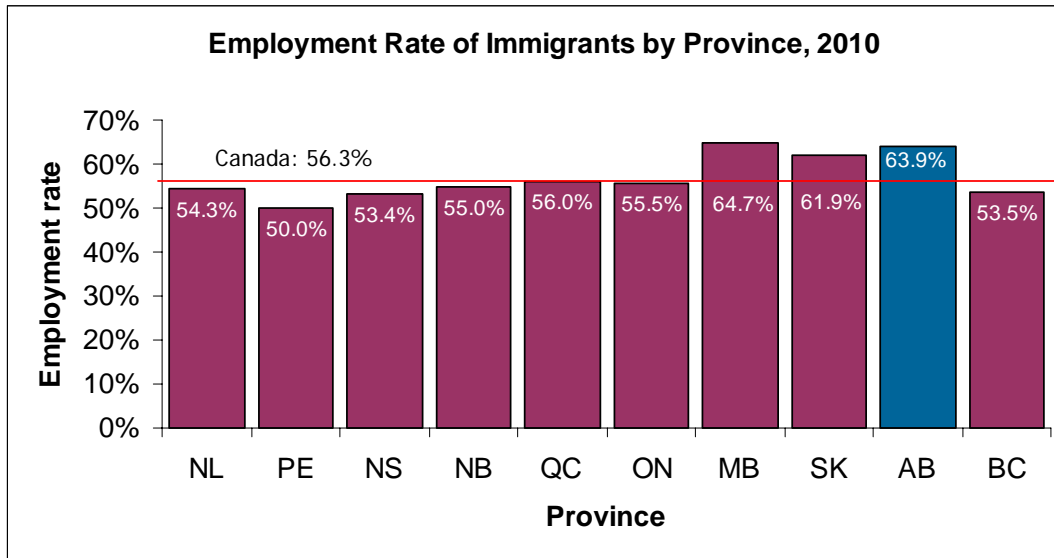
Figure 7



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Immigrants accounted for 18.7% of Albertans who were employed in 2010 (Figure 4). Figure 8 illustrates the inter-provincial differences in the rate of employment of immigrants in Canada in 2010. The rate of employment of immigrants in Alberta was 63.9%, the second highest among all provinces behind Manitoba. This rate was 7.6 percentage points above the Canadian rate of 56.3% for immigrants.

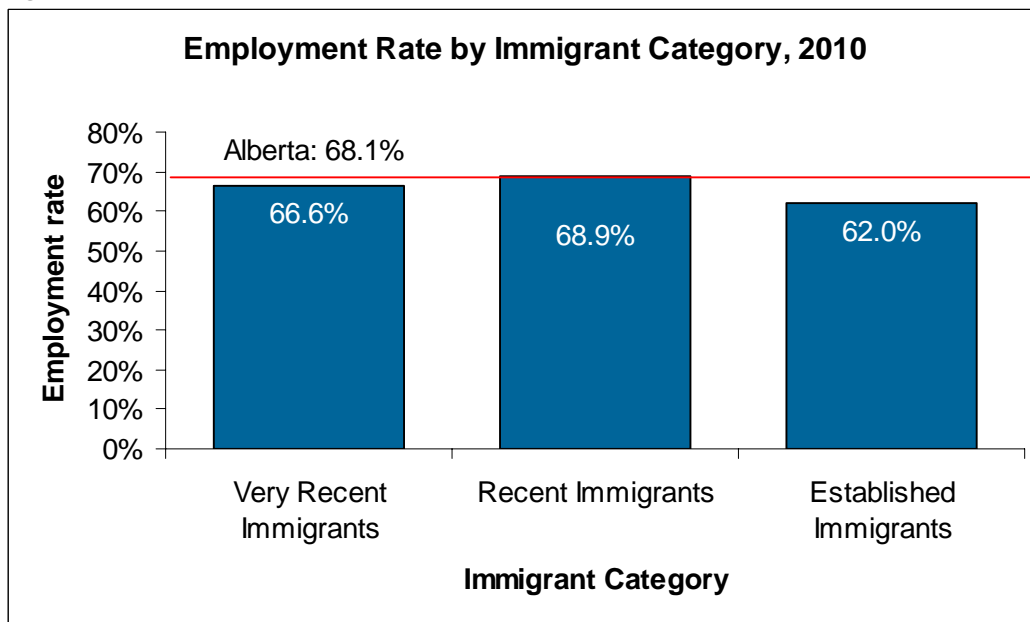
Figure 8



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 9 shows Alberta's rate of employment of immigrants by immigrant category in 2010. Recent immigrants had the highest employment rate, at 68.9%. This rate was 6.9 percentage points higher than the rate for established immigrants. The employment rate for all Albertans was 68.1%.

Figure 9

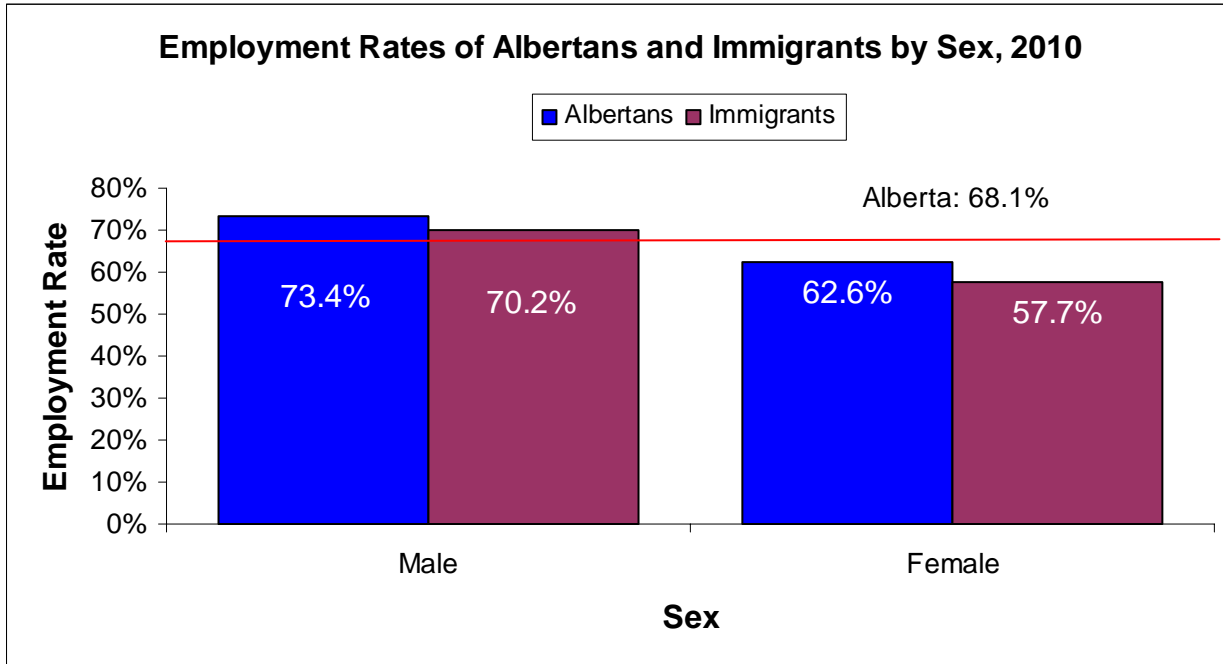


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2010

Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

Figure 10 shows the employment rates of all Albertans and immigrants by sex in 2010. The employment rate of immigrant males was 3.2 percentage points lower than the rate for all males in Alberta and the rate for immigrant females was 4.5 percentage points lower than the rate for all females in Alberta.

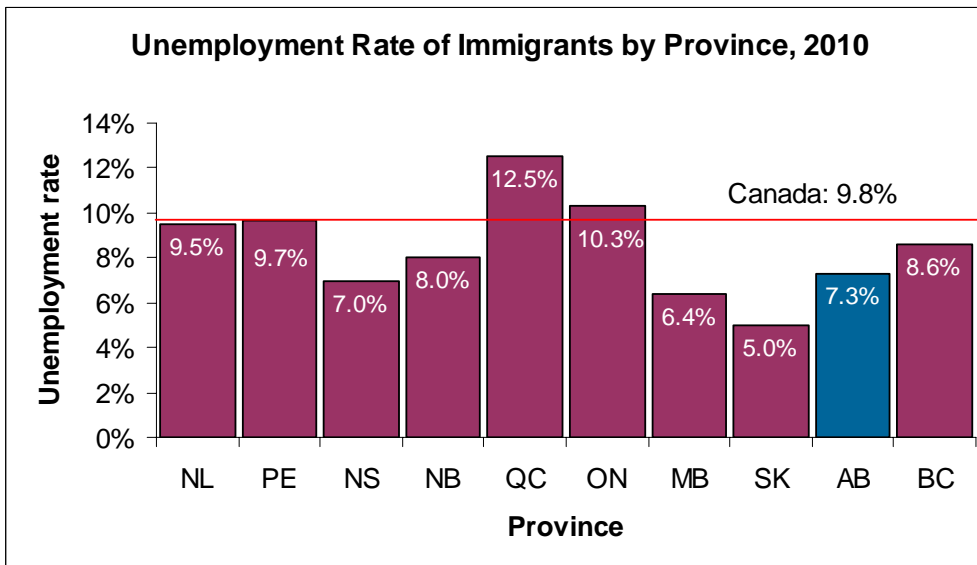
Figure 10



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2010

Immigrants accounted for 21.0% of Alberta's unemployed people in 2010. Their unemployment rate of 7.3% was nearly one percentage point higher than the unemployment rate of all Albertans but well below Canada's unemployment rate of 9.8% for immigrants (Figure 11).

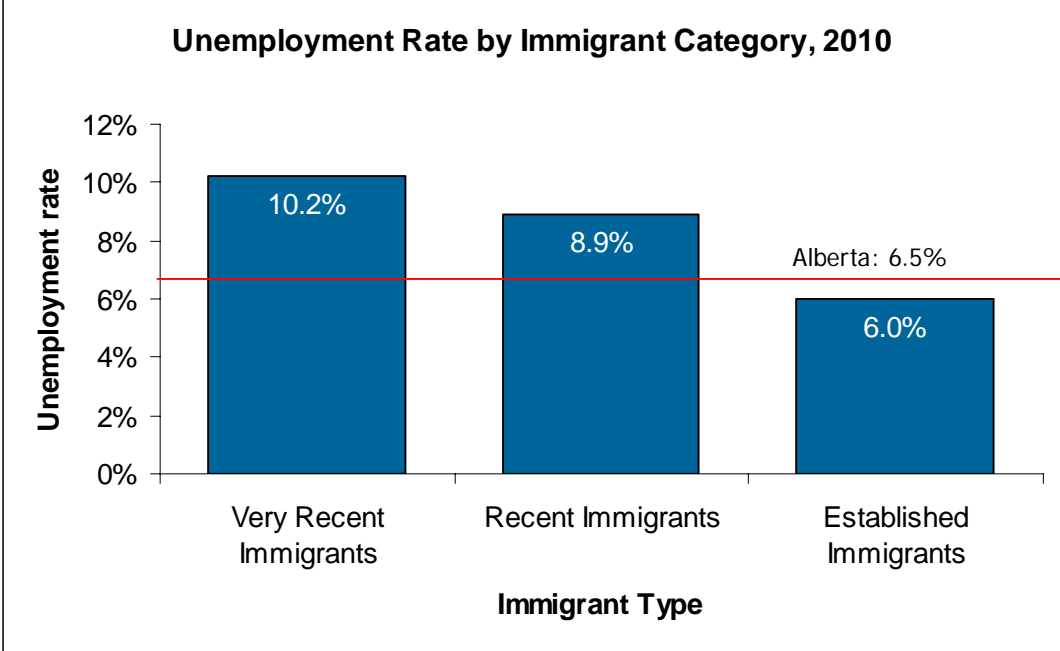
Figure 11



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 12 shows how the unemployment rate of immigrants varied by their period of immigration in 2010. The unemployment rate for very recent immigrants was 4.2 percentage points higher than the rate for established immigrants.

Figure 12



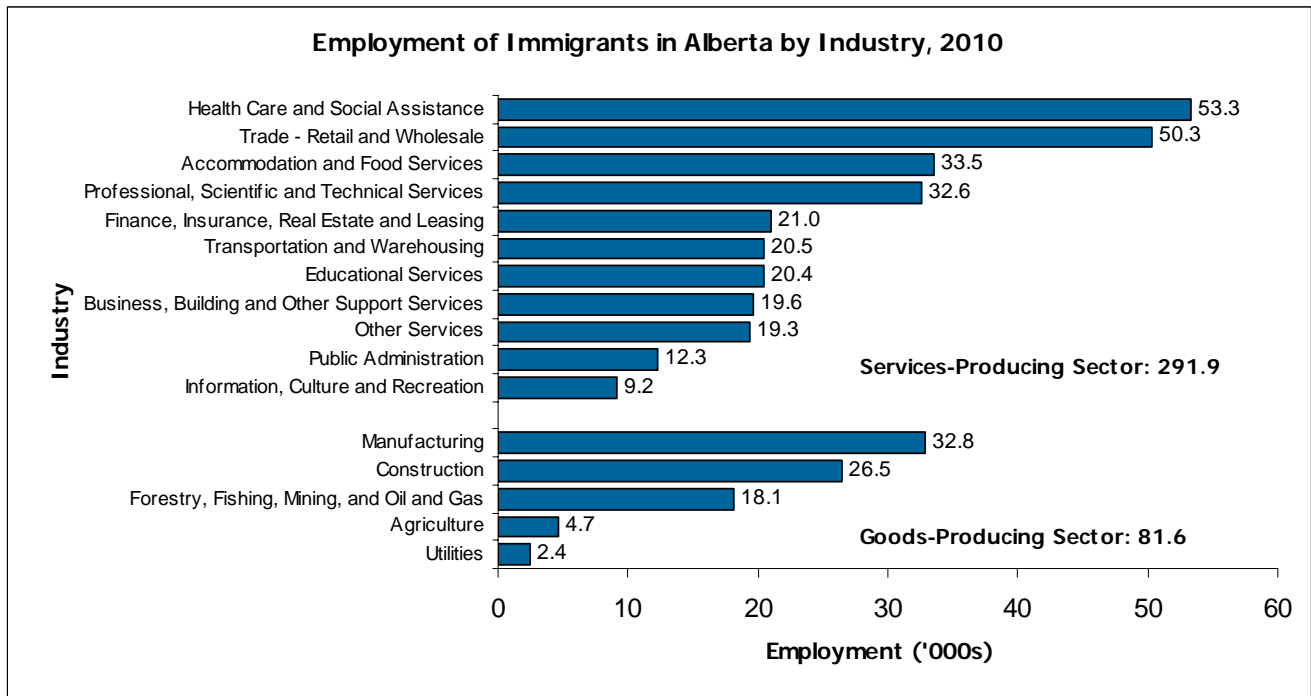
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2010
Note: See the appendix for the definitions of very recent immigrants, recent immigrants and established immigrants.

3. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Industry

The employment of immigrants in Alberta by industry in 2010 is shown in Figure 13. The percentage of immigrants who were employed in the Services-Producing sector, 77.6%, was higher than the percentage of all Albertans, 73.2%.

The top five employing industries for immigrants were: Health Care and Social Assistance, 53,300; Trade - Retail and Wholesale, 50,300; Accommodation and Food Services, 33,500; Manufacturing, 32,800; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 32,600. Together, these five industries accounted for 53.8% of the total immigrant employment in the province.

Figure 13



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 14 shows the percentage distribution of all employed Albertans and immigrants by industry in 2010. A higher percentage of immigrants was employed in the Services-Producing sector and a lower percentage in the Goods-Producing sector than the percentage of all Albertans. 46.3% of very recent immigrants worked in Trade; Accommodation and Food Services; and Health Care and Social Assistance while 34.9% of recent immigrants worked in the following three industries: Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services. For established immigrants, the top three employing industries were Health Care and Social Assistance; Trade; and Manufacturing.

The top three employing industries for all Albertans were Trade; Health Care and Social Assistance; and Construction.

Figure 14

| Percentage Distribution of Employed Albertans and Immigrants by Industry, 2010 | | | | | |
|---|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Industry | Alberta | Total Landed Immigrants | Very Recent Immigrants | Recent Immigrants | Established Immigrants |
| Goods-Producing Sector | 26.8% | 22.4% | 18.4% | 25.9% | 22.7% |
| Agriculture | 2.3% | 1.2% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 1.6% |
| Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas | 7.1% | 4.8% | 2.2% | 7.1% | 4.9% |
| Utilities | 0.9% | 0.6% | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Construction | 10.2% | 7.0% | 7.2% | 8.3% | 6.7% |
| Manufacturing | 6.2% | 8.7% | 7.9% | 8.6% | 9.0% |
| Services-Producing Sector | 73.2% | 77.6% | 81.6% | 74.1% | 77.3% |
| Trade | 15.2% | 13.4% | 17.0% | 13.8% | 12.2% |
| Transportation and Warehousing | 5.2% | 5.4% | 3.7% | 5.7% | 5.9% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing | 5.2% | 5.6% | 5.5% | 4.4% | 5.9% |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services | 7.5% | 8.7% | 7.2% | 9.9% | 8.8% |
| Business, Building and Other Support Services | 3.6% | 5.2% | 7.0% | 5.8% | 4.6% |
| Educational Services | 6.4% | 5.4% | 4.5% | 4.7% | 5.9% |
| Health Care and Social Assistance | 10.9% | 14.2% | 14.5% | 11.2% | 14.8% |
| Information, Culture and Recreation | 3.8% | 2.4% | n/a | 2.4% | 2.8% |
| Accommodation and Food Services | 6.2% | 8.9% | 14.8% | 8.6% | 7.4% |
| Other Services | 4.9% | 5.1% | 4.6% | 5.5% | 5.2% |
| Public Administration | 4.3% | 3.3% | n/a | n/a | 4.0% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Note: "n/a" denotes data suppressed by Statistics Canada due to insufficient sample size.

4. Employment of Immigrants in Alberta by Occupation

Figure 15 shows the percentage distribution of all employed Albertans and immigrants by occupation in Alberta in 2010. Proportionately more immigrants were employed in the following occupations than all Albertans: Natural and applied sciences; Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities; Health; Management; and Sales and services. Together, these five occupations accounted for 58.4% of employed immigrants compared to 48.6% of all employed Albertans.

Figure 15

| Percentage Distribution of Employed Albertans and Immigrants by Occupation, 2010 | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | All Albertans | Immigrants |
| Management | 8.1% | 8.5% |
| Business, finance and administrative | 17.6% | 15.8% |
| Natural and applied sciences | 7.8% | 11.1% |
| Health | 6.0% | 8.6% |
| Social science, education, government service and religion | 7.8% | 7.1% |
| Art, culture, recreation and sport | 2.2% | 1.6% |
| Sales and services | 23.7% | 26.0% |
| Trades, transport and equipment operators | 18.5% | 14.9% |
| Unique to primary industry | 5.3% | 2.3% |
| Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities | 3.0% | 4.2% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 16 shows that higher proportions of very recent and recent immigrants were employed in Sales and services; and Natural and applied sciences than were established immigrants.

Figure 16

| Percentage Distribution of Employed Immigrants by Category and Occupation, 2010 | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| Occupation | Very Recent Immigrants | Recent Immigrants | Established Immigrants |
| Management | 3.1% | 8.0% | 10.1% |
| Business, finance and administrative | 14.6% | 15.6% | 16.2% |
| Natural and applied sciences | 11.0% | 16.0% | 9.8% |
| Health | 7.8% | 7.2% | 9.2% |
| Social science, education, government service and religion | 6.3% | 5.0% | 7.8% |
| Art, culture, recreation and sport | n/a | n/a | 1.7% |
| Sales and services | 37.8% | 24.1% | 23.3% |
| Trades, transport and equipment operators | 13.7% | 16.4% | 14.9% |
| Unique to primary industry | n/a | n/a | 2.8% |
| Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities | 3.4% | 4.6% | 4.3% |
| Total | 100.0% | 100.0% | 100.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Note: "n/a" denotes data suppressed by Statistics Canada due to insufficient sample size

5. Full-time/Part-time Employment of Immigrants in Alberta

Figure 17 shows the percentages of all Albertans and immigrants who were employed full-time and part-time in 2010. Overall, a slightly higher percentage of immigrants, 83.7%, were employed full-time than all Albertans, 82.4%. Established immigrants had the highest percentage of members employed full-time and very recent immigrants had the lowest percentage.

Figure 17

| Full- and Part-Time Employment of All Albertans and Immigrants, 2010 | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Employment | % Full-time Employment | % Part-time Employment |
| All Albertans | 2,016,600 | 82.4% | 17.6% |
| Immigrants | 376,400 | 83.7% | 16.3% |
| Very Recent Immigrants | 67,000 | 80.9% | 19.0% |
| Recent Immigrants | 63,600 | 81.8% | 18.2% |
| Established Immigrants | 245,800 | 85.0% | 15.0% |

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Survey, 2010

Figure 18 shows the number and percentage of all Albertans and immigrants who were employed full-time and part-time by age group in 2010. A higher percentage of all Albertans aged 15-24 was employed full-time than similarly aged immigrants. In the 55+ age group, however, a higher percentage of immigrants was employed full-time than all Albertans.

Figure 18

| Full-time and Part-time Employment of Albertans and Immigrants by Age Group, 2010 | | | | |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | All Albertans | | Immigrants | |
| | <i>Employed</i> | <i>Percent (%)</i> | <i>Employed</i> | <i>Percent (%)</i> |
| All 15+ years | 2,016,600 | 100.0% | 376,400 | 100.0% |
| Full-time | 1,661,000 | 82.4% | 315,200 | 83.7% |
| Part-time | 355,600 | 17.6% | 61,200 | 16.3% |
| 15-24 years | 314,500 | 15.6% | 27,500 | 7.3% |
| Full-time | 197,100 | 62.7% | 14,400 | 52.4% |
| Part-time | 117,400 | 37.3% | 13,200 | 48.0% |
| 25-54 years | 1,381,500 | 68.5% | 272,600 | 72.4% |
| Full-time | 1,212,400 | 87.8% | 238,900 | 87.6% |
| Part-time | 169,100 | 12.2% | 33,700 | 12.4% |
| 55+ Years | 320,600 | 15.9% | 76,200 | 20.2% |
| Full-time | 251,500 | 78.4% | 61,900 | 81.2% |
| Part-time | 69,100 | 21.6% | 14,300 | 18.8% |

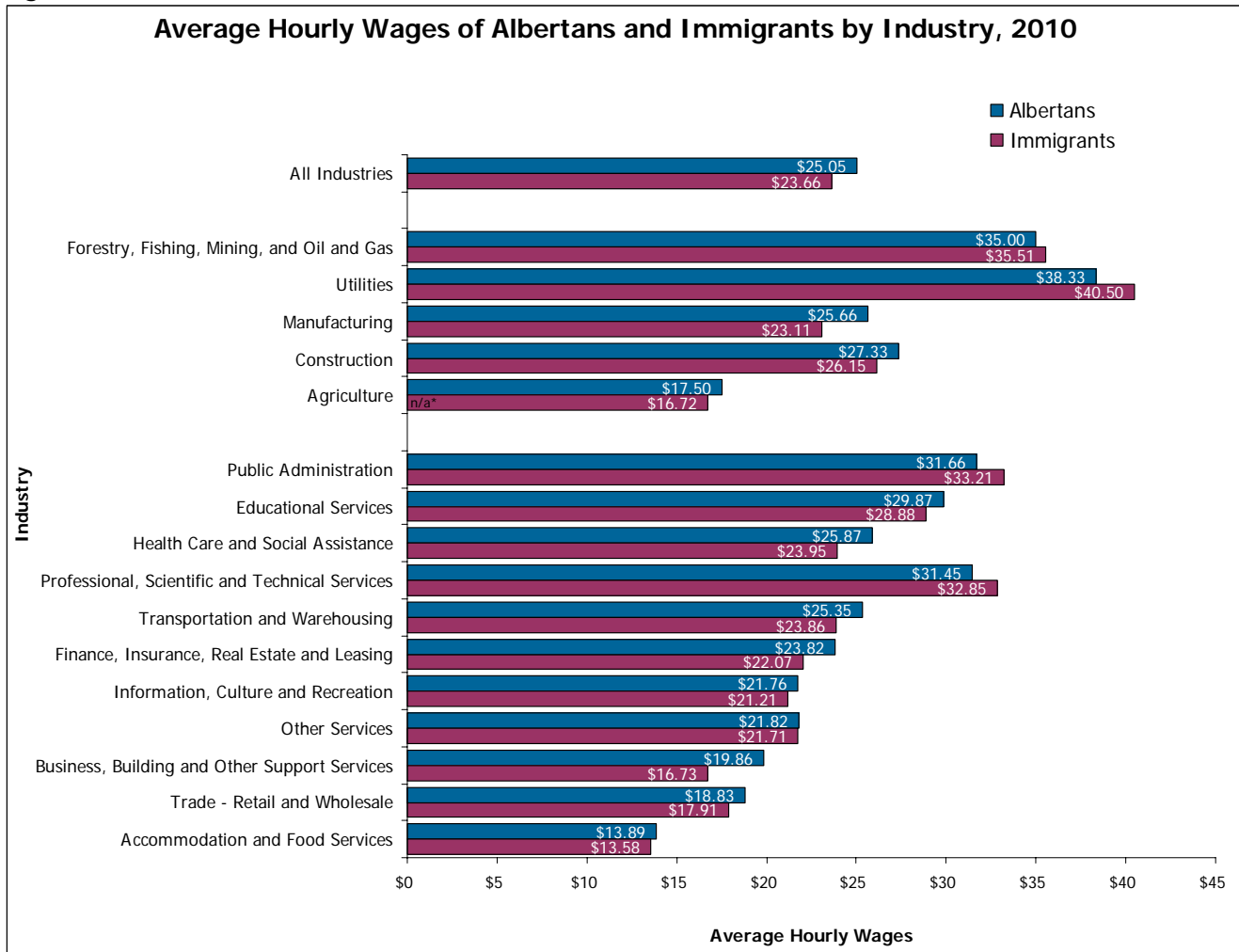
Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

6. Average Hourly Wage of Immigrants in Alberta

Figure 19 displays the average hourly wages of all employed Albertans and immigrants by industry in 2010. On average, immigrants earned higher hourly wages than all Albertans in four industries: Forestry, Fishing, Mining, Oil and Gas; Utilities; Professional, Scientific and Technical Services; and Public Administration.

Overall, immigrants earned on average \$1.39 less per hour than all Albertans.

Figure 19

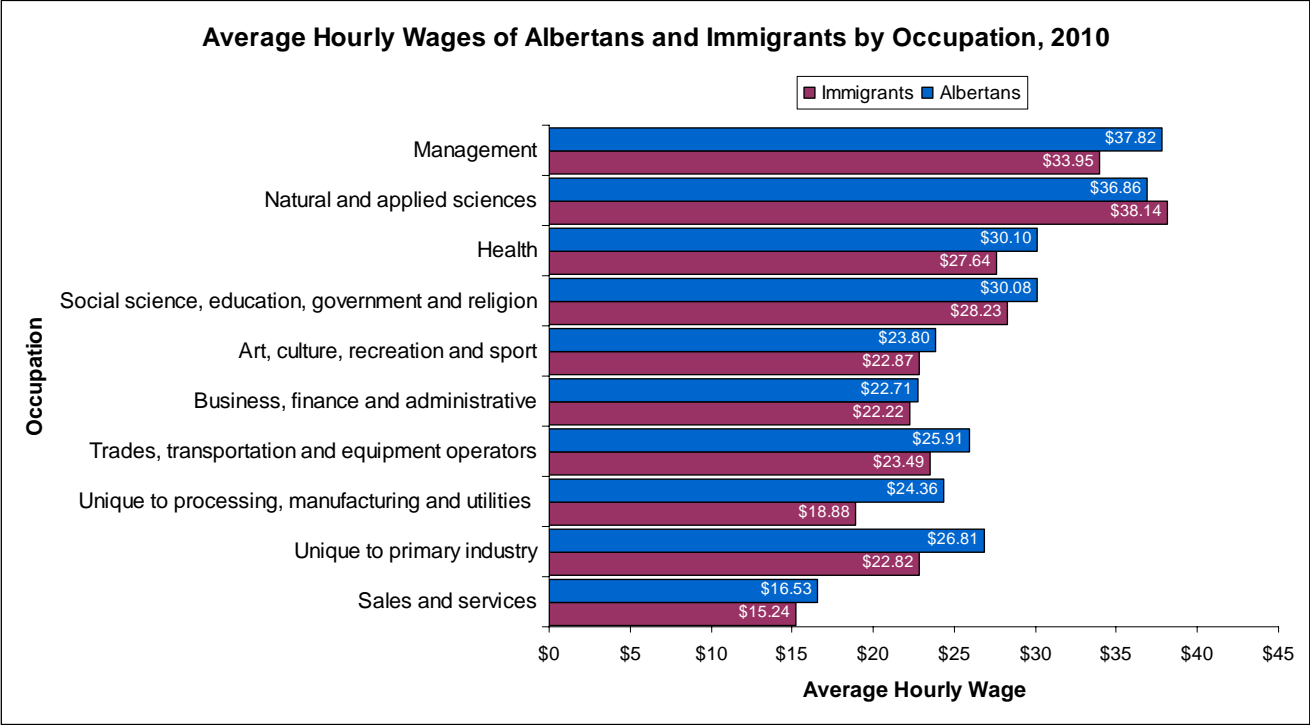


Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 20 shows the average hourly wages of all Albertans and immigrants by occupation in 2010. The average hourly wages of all Albertans were higher than those of immigrants in all occupations except Natural and applied sciences. The occupations with the largest difference in the average hourly wage were: Unique to processing, manufacturing and utilities, \$5.48; Unique to primary industry, \$3.99; and Management, \$3.87.

The average hourly wage paid to immigrants in the Natural and applied sciences was \$1.28 higher than the average hourly wage paid to all Albertans employed in this occupation.

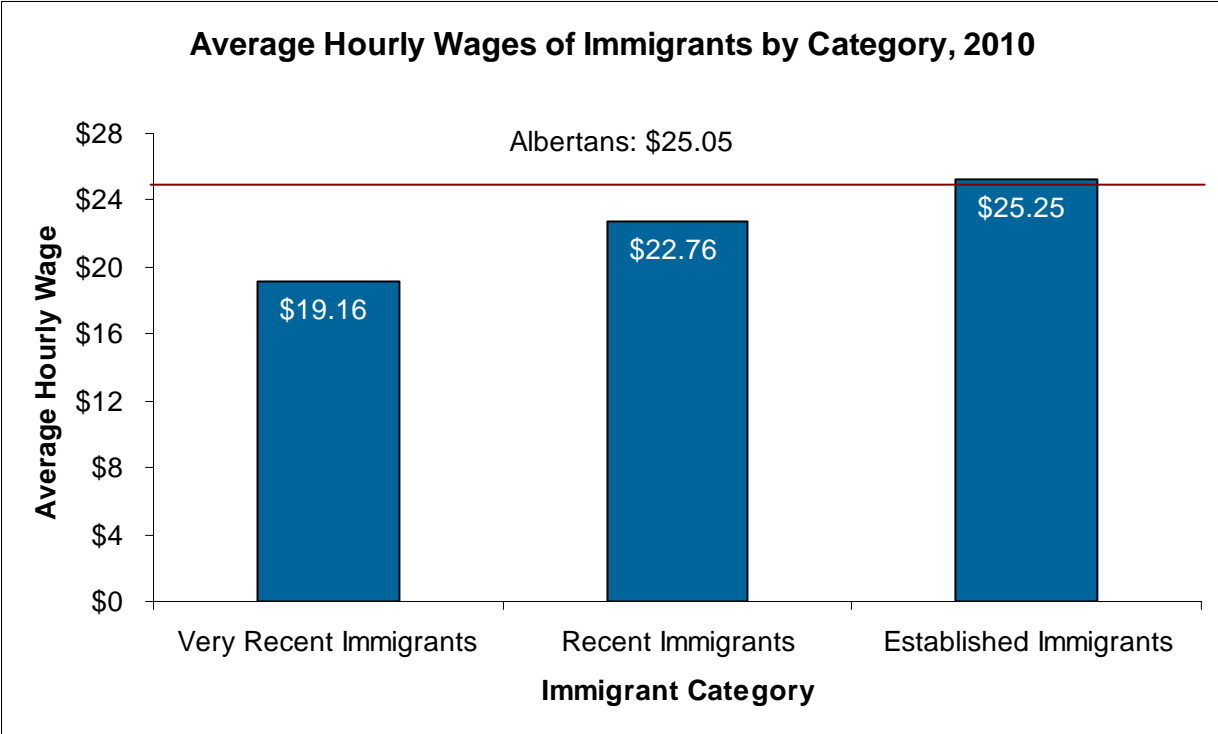
Figure 20



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Figure 21 shows the average hourly wages of immigrants by category in 2010. Established immigrants earned the highest average hourly wage, \$2.59 more than recent immigrants and \$6.19 more than very recent immigrants.

Figure 21



Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Historical Review, 2010

Appendix

All of the following definitions are from the Guide to the Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada – Catalogue no. 71-543-GIE.

Employment Rate: The number of persons employed expressed as a percentage of the working age population (WAP).

Industry: The general nature of the business carried out by the employer for whom the respondent works (main job only).

Labour Force: The labour force is composed of the portion of the WAP who, during the reference week, were employed or unemployed. The reference week is defined as the week containing the 15th day of the month in which information is collected for the Labour Force Survey.

Occupation: The kind of work persons 15+ years were doing during the reference week, as determined by the kind of work reported and the description of the most important duties of the job. If the individual did not have a job during the reference week, the data relates to the previous job, if that job was held in the past year.

Immigrant: Refers to people who are, or have been, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Canadian citizens by birth and non-permanent residents (persons from another country who live in Canada and have a work or study permit, or are claiming refugee status, as well as family members living here with them) are not landed immigrants. **Very recent immigrants** are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for 5 years or less prior to the Labour Force Survey (LFS). **Recent immigrants** are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for more than 5 years but no more than 10 years prior to the LFS. **Established immigrants** are individuals who have been landed immigrants in Canada for more than 10 years prior to the LFS.

Participation Rate: The total labour force expressed as a percentage of the WAP. This measure represents the proportion of the WAP that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

Working Age Population: Those persons 15+ years except persons living on Indian reserves, inmates of institutions, and full-time members of the Canadian Armed Forces.