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Why don't immigrants in British Columbia feel more 'at home'?

Unpacking the settlement experiences of newcomers

By: Lori Wilkinson, Jill Bucklaschuk , Jack (Yi) Shen, Iqbal Ahmed Chowdhury, Pallabi Bhattacharyya & Tamara Edkins

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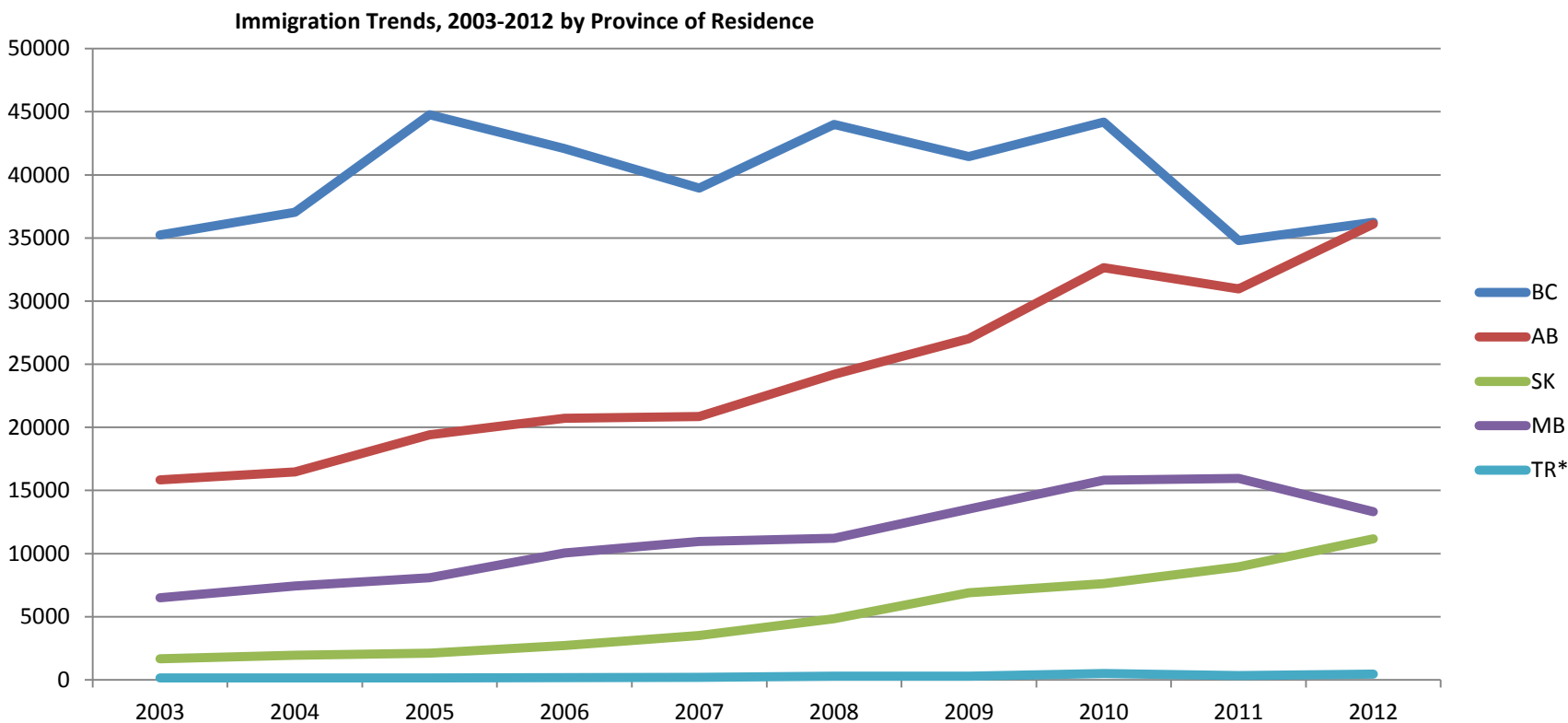
Objectives of Today's Presentation

- **PROJECT OBJECTIVES:** *to better understand the settlement experiences of immigrants in western Canada and how they may compare to immigrants in other provinces*
 - *Labour market, service use, social integration and cohesion, language acquisition*
- **TODAY'S OBJECTIVES**
 - Examine and compare various outcomes among immigrants in British Columbia and the rest of Canada with special attention to: **sense of belonging, social integration and labour market integration**

Datasets used

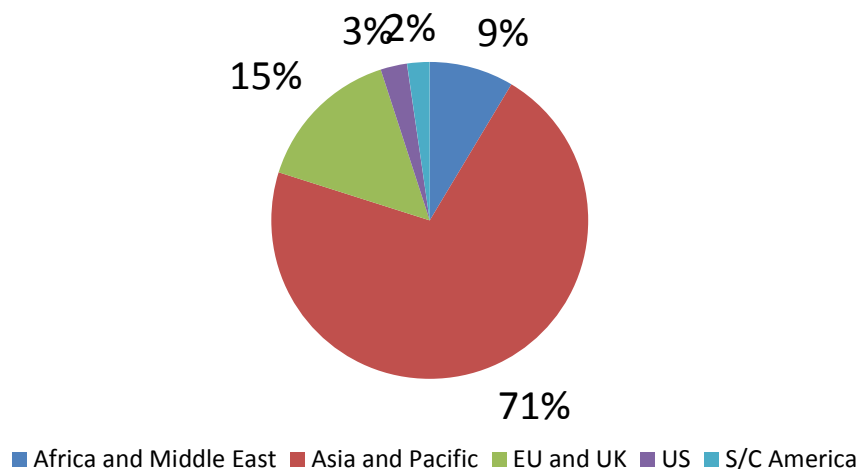
- **Pan Canadian Settlement Survey** (N=20,818) and **Western Canadian Settlement Survey** (N=3,006)
- Random samples drawn from a CIC data file
 - Telephone survey conducted in late 2012-early 2013
 - Response rates: between 24.6% and 38.0%
- **IMDB**
 - Landings records (LIDS) combined with tax files for all immigrants and refugees landing between 1980 and 2012
 - Census of the population
- **Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (2004)**
 - Followed 5,000 immigrants for their first two years in Canada (landing between 2002-2004)

Immigrant Arrivals by Province, 2003-12

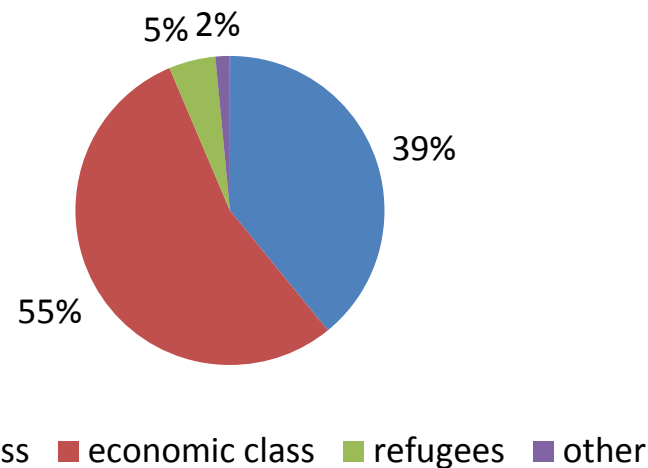


Who immigrates to British Columbia?

Immigrants by Source Area, 2013



Immigrants by Entrance Class, 2013

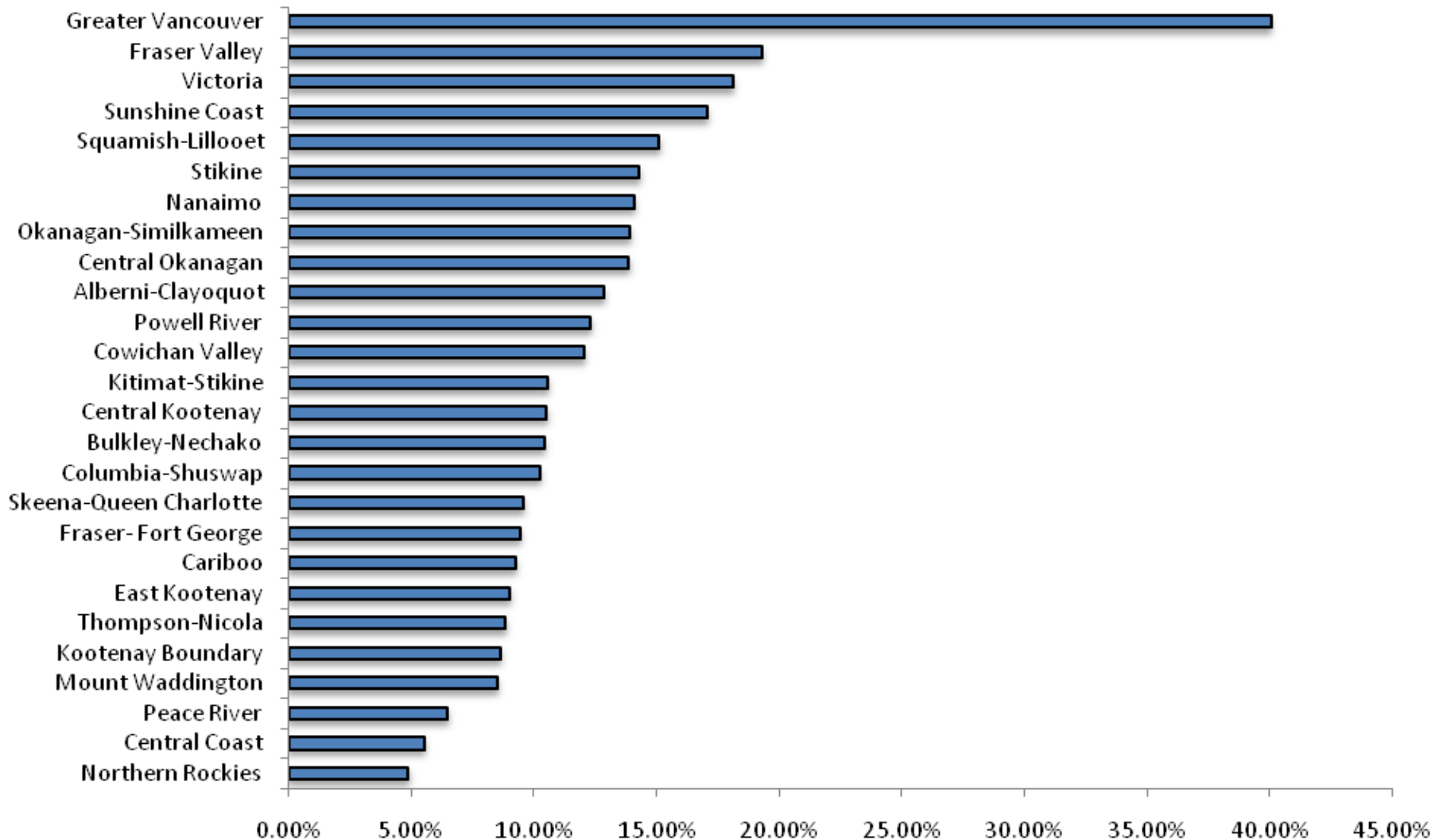


Immigrants by Language Ability, 2013

	<u>BC</u>	<u>Canada</u>
English	58%	52%
French	0%	6%
Both	3%	9%
Neither	39%	33%



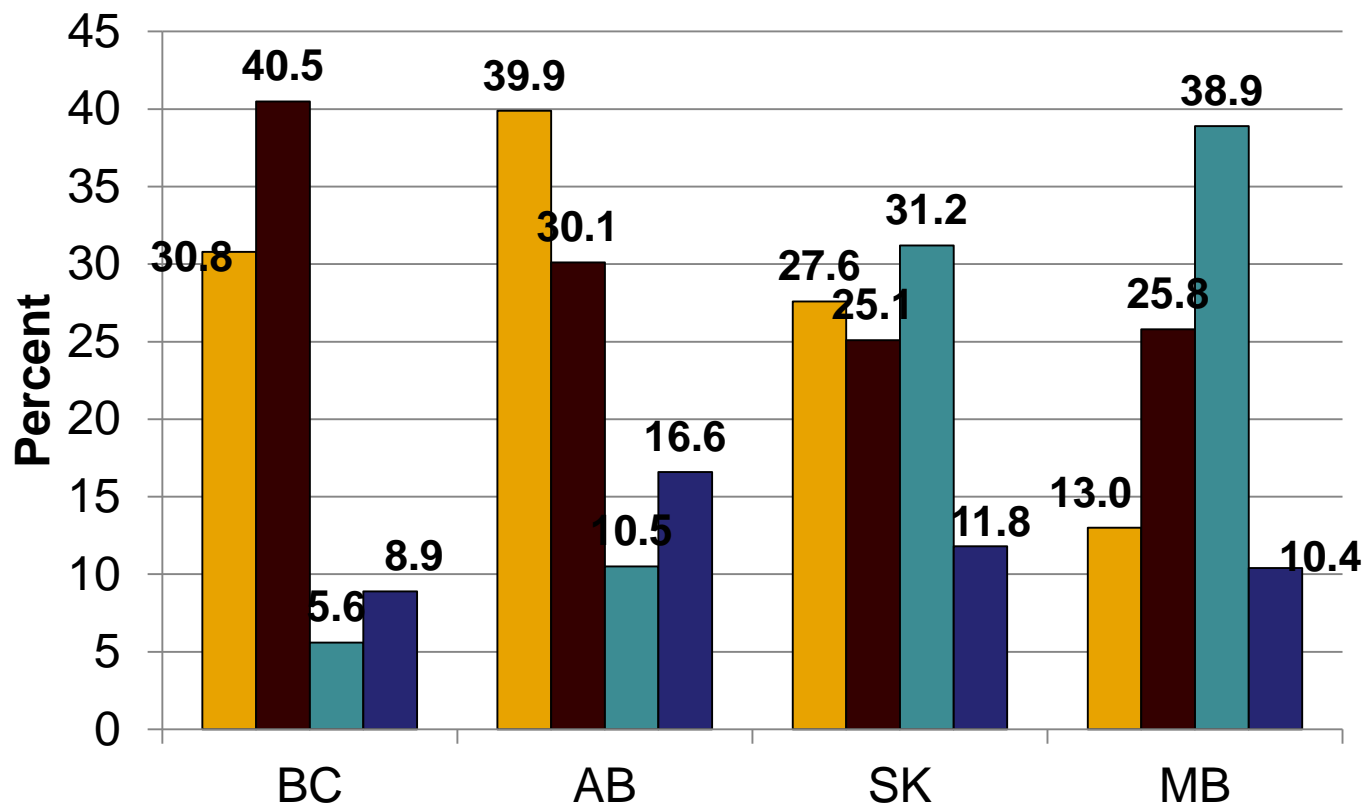
Percentage of Immigrants by Region (BC)



Select demographics from Western Canada Survey

Percent rural immigrants, by province

- BC - 5.5%
- AB - 12.7%
- SK - 16.3%
- MB - 8.2%



■ Skilled Worker/ Professional
■ Provincial Nominee

■ Family Class
■ Refugee



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Settlement Service Indicators



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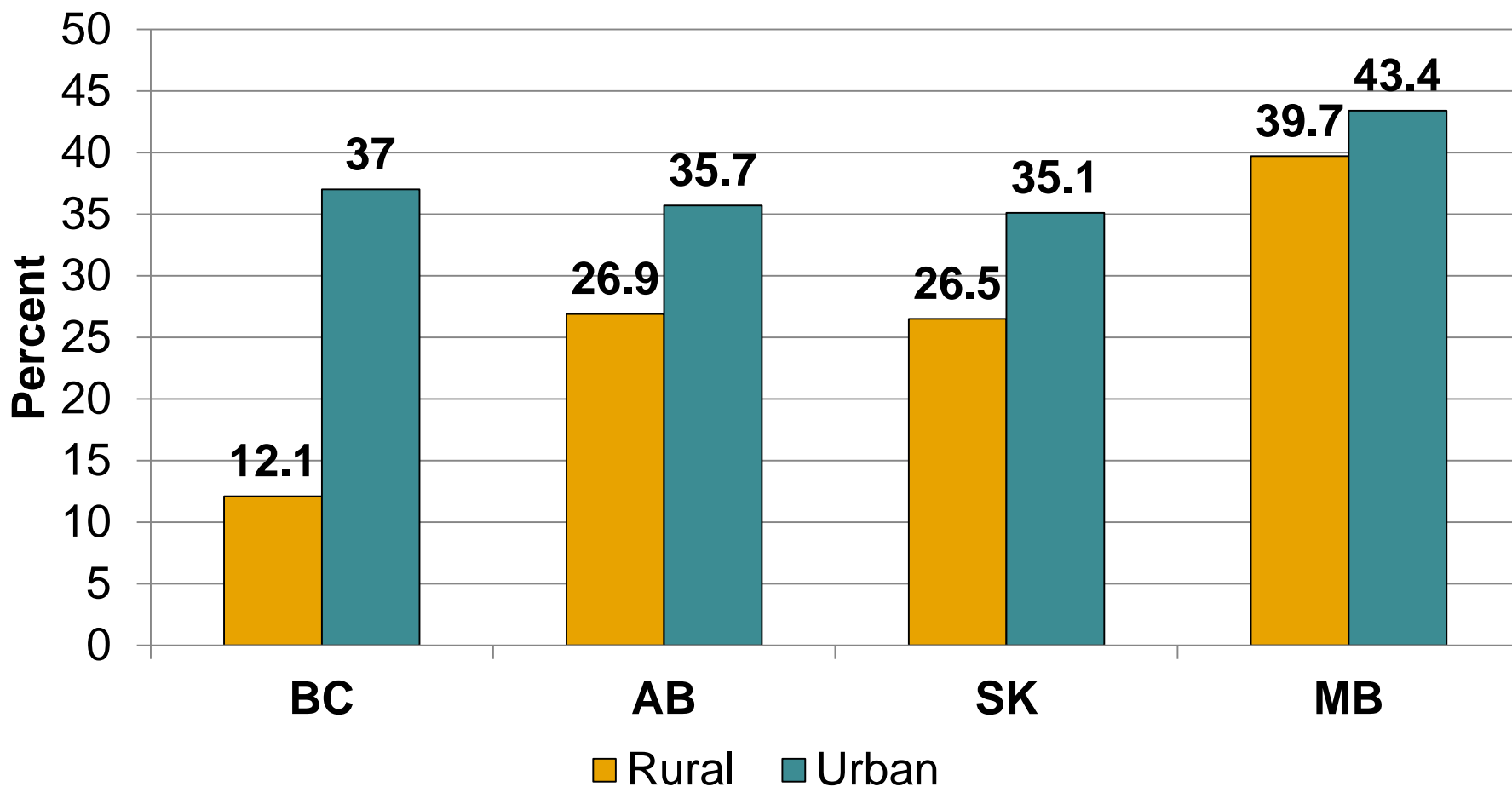
Settlement Service Use by Province

Service use (3 category) by province					
	Province of Residence				Total
	AB	SK	MB	BC	
Yes	34.2%	32.9%	41.8%	34.0%	1027 (35.9%)
No	26.9%	36.1%	34.1%	35.1%	941 (32.9%)
No, but needed them	38.9%	31.0%	24.0%	30.9%	891 (31.2%)
Total	755 (100%)	642 (100%)	779 (100%)	683 (100%)	2859 (100%)

Source: WCSS
 $X^2=49.882$ $df=6$ $P\leq 0.01$



Service access by province and rural/urban

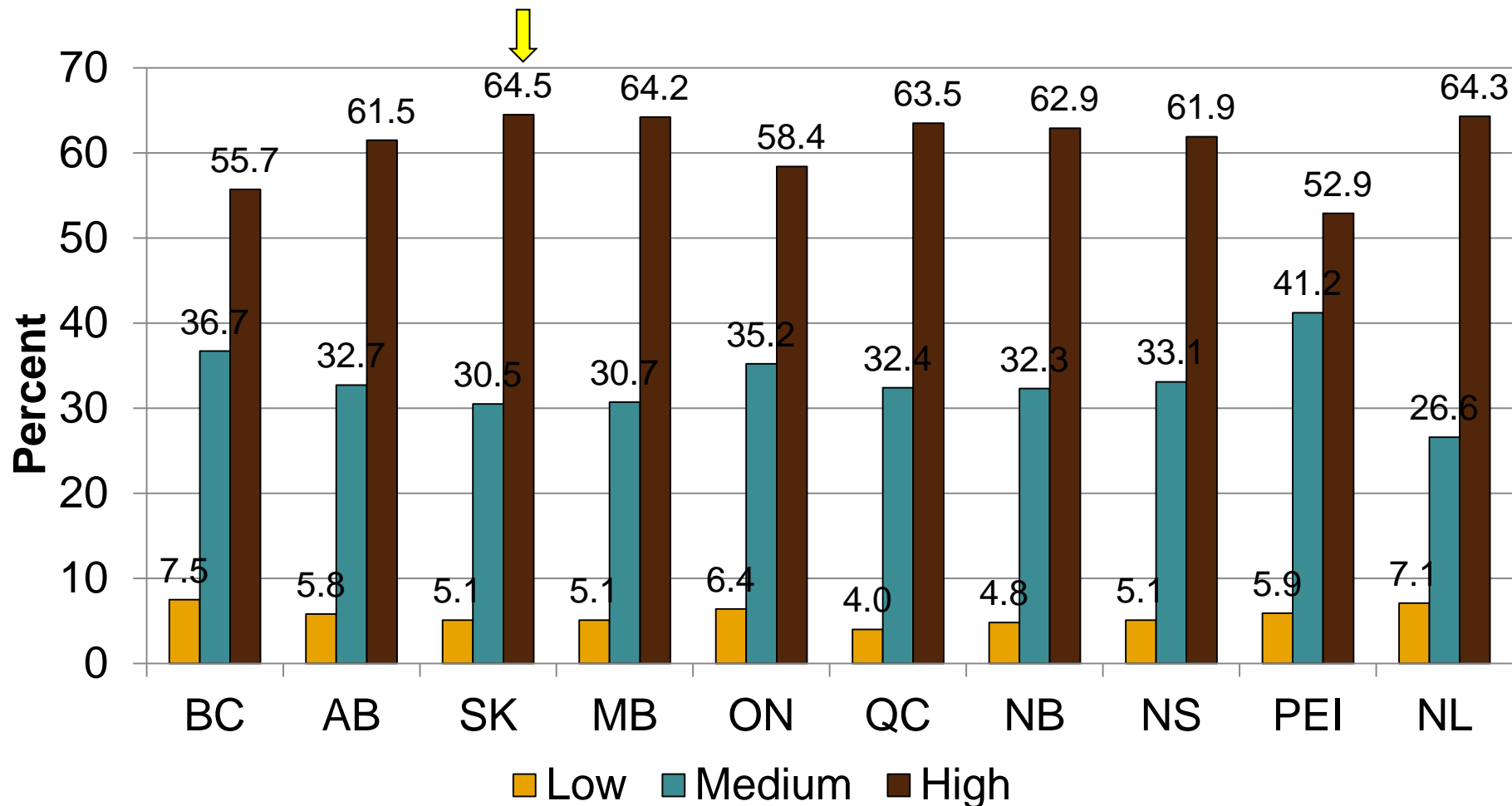


Source: WCSS, 2013

χ^2 (Rural) = 8.595, df=3, $p \leq 0.035$; χ^2 (Urban) = 11.945, df=3, $p \leq 0.01$



Satisfaction with services received by province



Source: Pan-Canadian Settlement Survey, 2012.
 $\chi^2=74.581$, $df=18$, $P\leq 0.01$



Service use by language & province of residence

Service use by English language ability & Province of Residence					
		English Language Ability			Total
		<u>None</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	
BC	Accessed services	51.2%	42.6%	34.2%	232 (36.2%)
	Did not access services	48.8%	57.4%	65.8%	409 (63.8%)
AB	Accessed services	60.0%	51.5%	32.0%	258 (34.6%)
	Did not access services	40.0%	48.5%	68.0%	487 (65.4%)
SK	Accessed services	54.1%	43.9%	31.3%	211 (33.8%)
	Did not access services	45.9%	56.1%	68.7%	414 (66.2%)

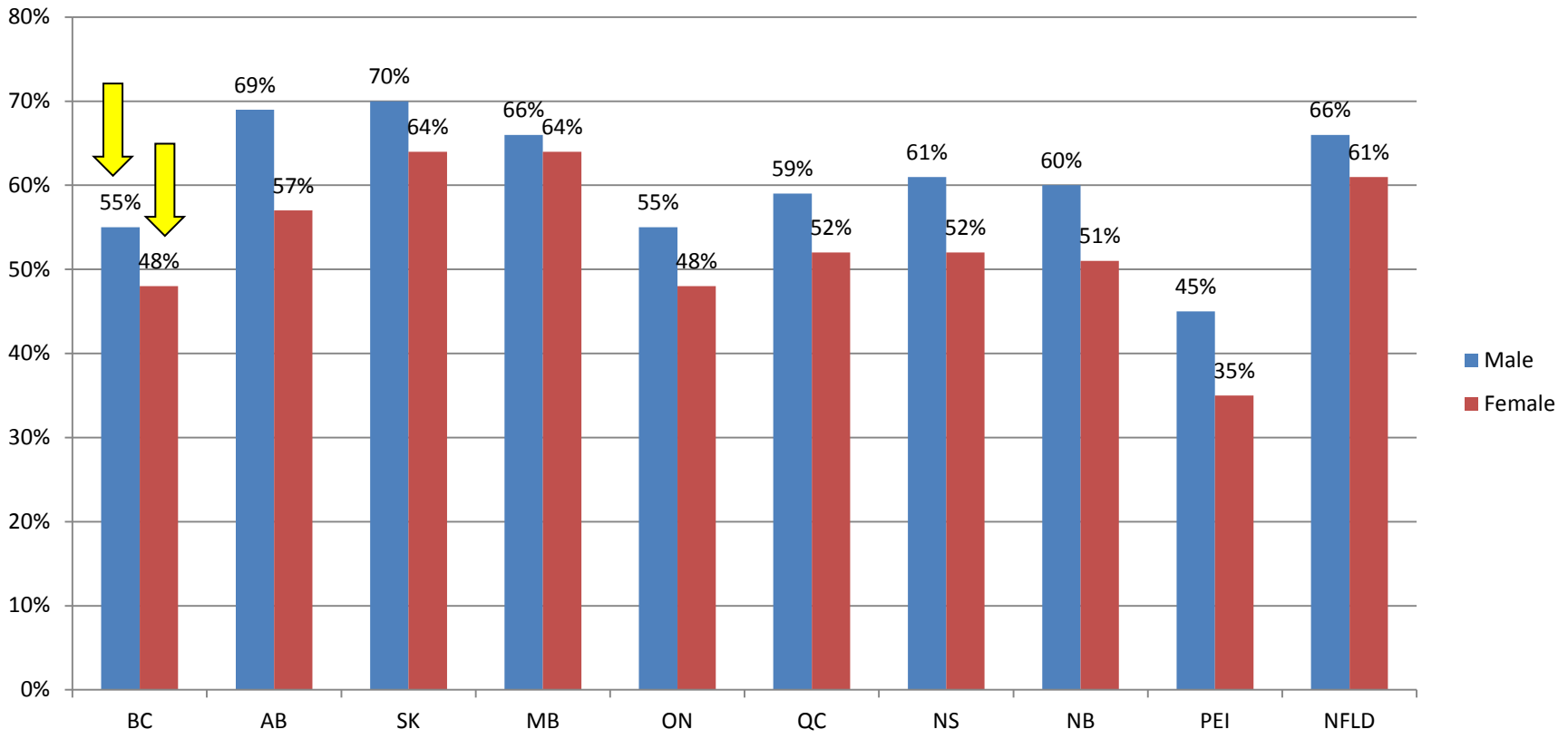
Source: WCSS

χ^2 (BC) = 6.141, df=2, $P \leq 0.05$; χ^2 (Alberta) = 17.484, df=2, $P \leq 0.01$;

χ^2 (Saskatchewan) = 10.896, df=2, $P \leq 0.01$



Immigrants in BC having difficulty knowing where to go to get help finding a job

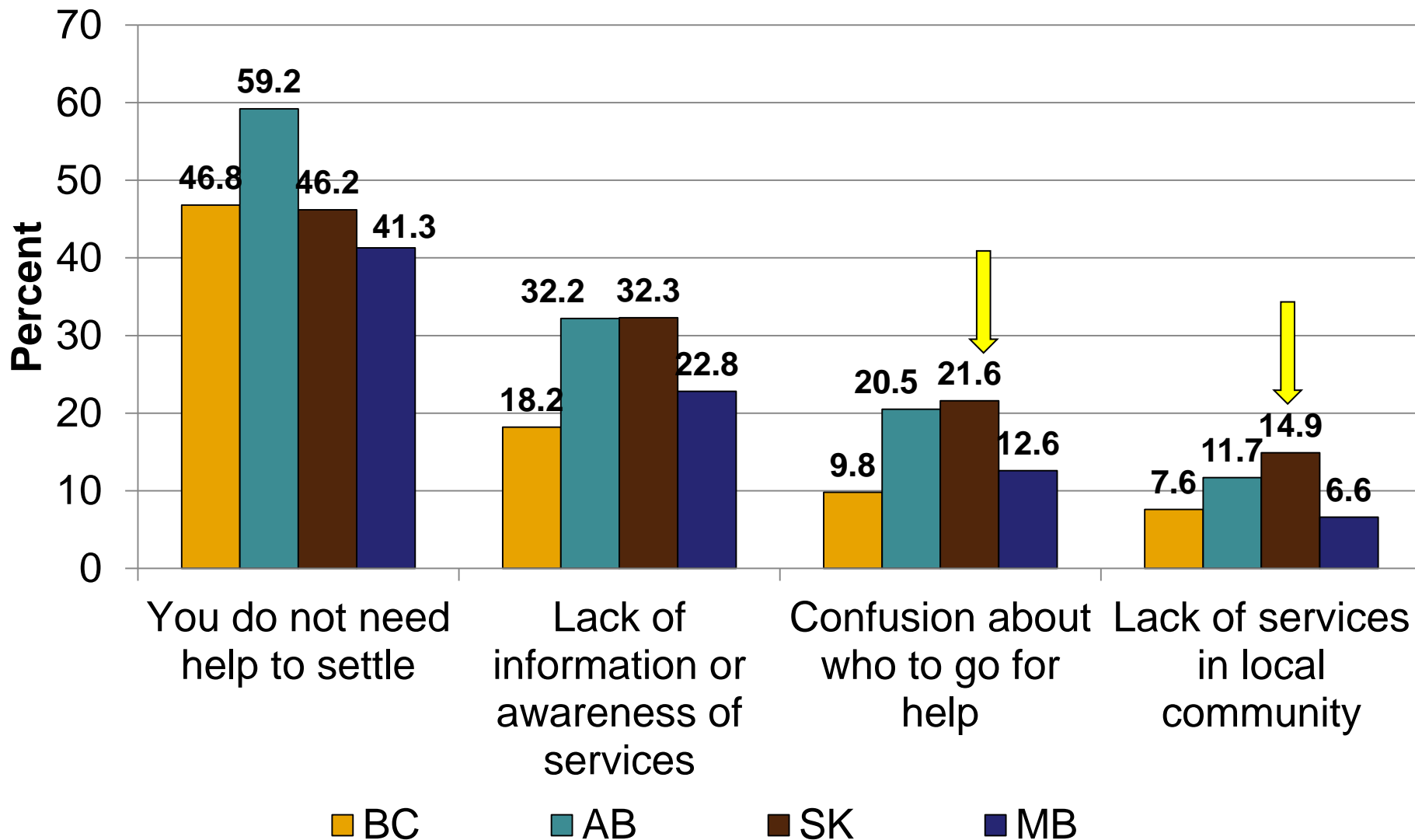


Source: Pan-Cdn

X^2 (Male) = 158.677 df= 18 $P \leq 0.000$; X^2 (Female) = 172.974 df= 18 $P \leq 0.000$



Reasons for not accessing services by province



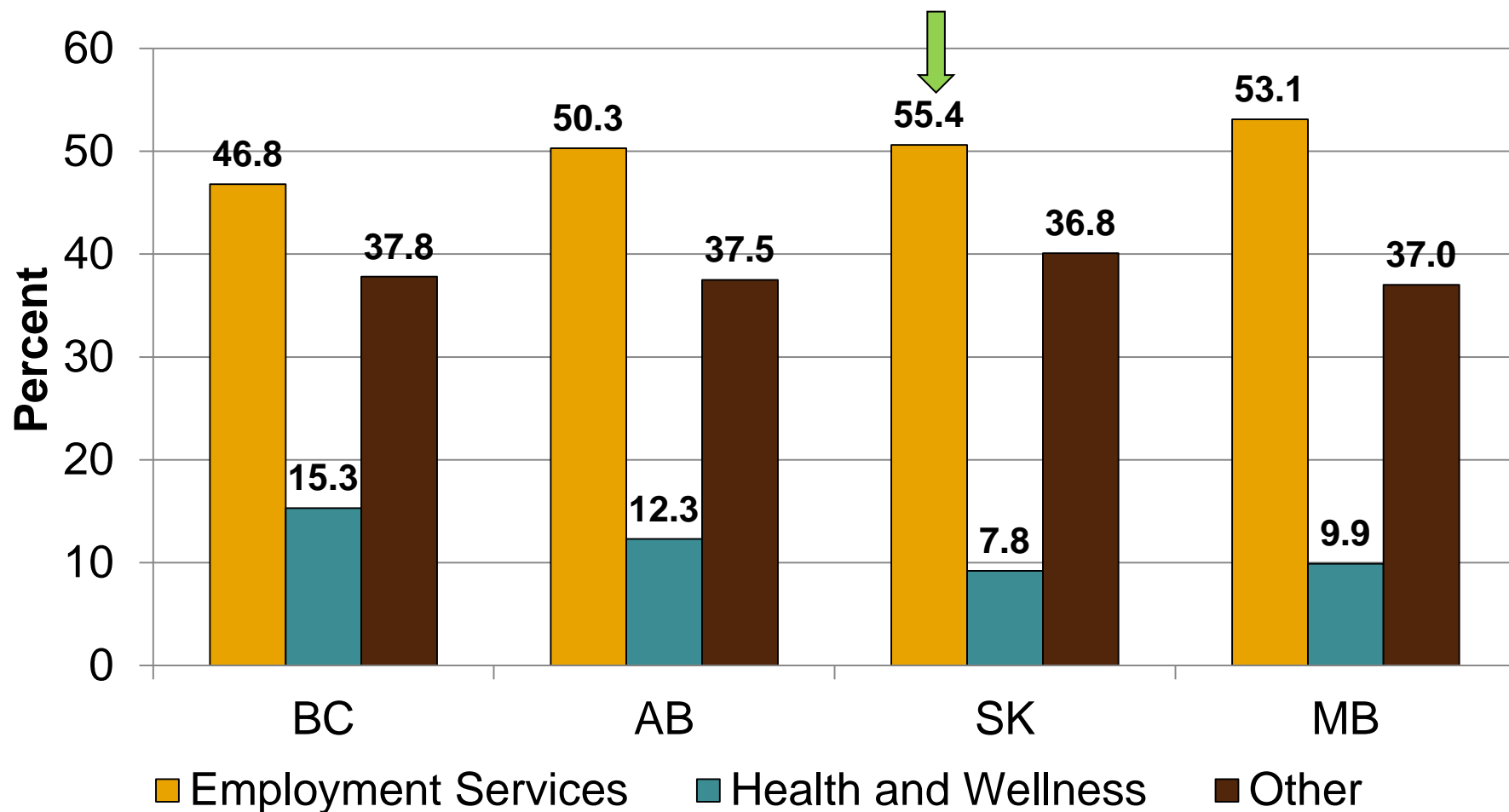
Almost 1/3 of those experiencing difficulty finding work have not used services

Difficulty finding work because there are not a lot of jobs available that match my qualifications by service use			
	Service Use		Total
	<u>Accessed services</u>	<u>Did not access services</u>	
No	78.6%	71.2%	1268 (74.2%)
Yes	21.4%	28.8%	440 (25.8%)
Total	702 (100%)	1006 (100%)	1708 (100%)

Source: WCSS
 $X^2=12.030$ $df= 1$ $P\leq 0.001$



Services most needed after arrival by province



Source: WCSS, 2013.
 $\chi^2 = 16.133$, $df=6$, $P \leq 0.013$



Top-ranked services needed for BC

- Employment services - 55.4%
- Supportive counselling - 8.7%
- Information about living in your province - 8.3%
- Health and Wellness - 7.8%
- English language assessment and instruction - 5.9%
- Programs to connect you with members of the local community - 5.3%
- Interpretation and Translation - 4.3%
- Programs to help your children - 3.4%



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Sense of Belonging



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Immigrants in BC have weakest sense of belonging

Sense of Belonging by Province of Residence					
	<u>Province of Residence</u>				<u>Total</u>
	<u>BC</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>SK</u>	<u>MB</u>	
Weak	5.8%	2.5%	3.7%	4.7%	4.1%
Moderate	24.6%	16.7%	16.2%	22.0%	19.9%
Strong	69.6%	80.8%	80.0%	73.4%	75.9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: WCSS, 2013
 $\chi^2=35.124$, $df=6$, $P\leq 0.01$



Females in BC have the weakest sense of belonging

Sense of Belonging by Province of Residence, Females

	Province of Residence				Total
	BC	AB	SK	MB	
Weak	6.9%	2.1%	3.6%	4.5%	61 (4.3%)
Moderate	26.9%	17.0%	17.3%	22.9%	303 (21.1%)
Strong	66.3%	80.9%	79.1%	72.6%	1069 (74.6%)
Total	350 (100%)	376 (100%)	306 (100%)	401 (100%)	1433 (100%)

Source: WCSS, 2013

$\chi^2(\text{Female}) = 27.344, df=6, P \leq 0.01$



Urban dwellers in BC have lowest belonging

		<u>BC</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>SK</u>	<u>MB</u>	<u>Total</u>
Rural	Weak	2.7%	1.1%	1.0%	3.1%	1.7%
	Moderate	16.2%	11.6%	20.2%	9.4%	14.7%
	Strong	81.1%	87.4%	78.8%	87.5%	83.7%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Urban	Weak	6.1%	2.8%	4.3%	4.9%	4.5%
	Moderate	24.9%	17.6%	15.8%	23.3%	20.6%
	Strong	69.0%	79.7%	79.9%	71.8%	74.9%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: WCSS, 2013
 $\chi^2(\text{Urban}) = 32.754, df=6, P \leq 0.01$

Sense of belonging by Province of Residence and Entrance Class

Entrance Class		Province of Residence				Total
		BC	AB	SK	MB	
Economic Immigrant	Weak	5.9%	2.2%	4.2%	2.3%	54 (3.5%)
	Medium	22.6%	17.2%	14.9%	20.7%	286 (18.6%)
	Strong	71.5%	80.6%	80.9%	77.0%	1196 (77.9%)
	Total	304 (100%)	402 (100%)	404 (100%)	426 (100%)	1537 (100%)
Family Class	Weak	6.9%	3.5%	3.1%	7.0%	46 (5.3%)
	Medium	25.9%	16.7%	15.4%	21.6%	177 (20.5%)
	Strong	67.2%	79.7%	81.5%	71.4%	639 (74.1%)
	Total	274 (100%)	227 (100%)	162 (100%)	199 (100%)	862 (100%)
Refugee	Weak		1.6%	2.7%	6.2%	9 (2.6%)
	Medium	27.4%	15.2%	25.3%	29.6%	79 (23.0%)
	Strong	72.6%	83.2%	72.0%	64.2%	255 (74.3%)
	Total	62 (100%)	125 (100%)	75 (100%)	81 (100%)	343 (100%)

Experience of Discrimination by Province of Residence and Sex

Sex	Experience of Discrimination	Province of Residence				Total
		<u>BC</u>	<u>AB</u>	<u>SK</u>	<u>MB</u>	
Male	Never	80.2%	70.1%	75.5%	72.8%	1037 (74.4%)
	Sometimes	5.6%	10.4%	8.4%	7.2%	111 (8.0%)
	Always	14.2%	19.5%	16.1%	20.0%	245 (17.6%)
	Total	324 (100%)	374 (100%)	335 (100%)	360 (100%)	1393 (100%)
Female	Never	81.7%	68.5%	74.3%	78.7%	1073 (75.8%)
	Sometimes	5.2%	11.8%	6.6%	5.9%	105 (7.4%)
	Always	13.2%	19.6%	19.1%	15.4%	237 (16.7%)
	Total	349 (100%)	372 (100%)	304 (100%)	390 (100%)	1415 (100%)

Source: WCSS, 2013

χ^2 (Male)= 12.654, df=6, P \leq 0.049; χ^2 (Female)= 24.248, df=6, P \leq 0.01

Experience of Discrimination by Province of Residence and Entrance Class

ECONOMIC CLASS	Province of Residence				Total
	BC	AB	SK	MB	
Never	78.4%	67.7%	72.7%	76.4%	1117 (73.5%)
Sometimes	5.3%	10.0%	6.5%	6.5%	109 (7.2%)
Always	16.3%	22.3%	20.8%	17.1%	293 (19.3%)
Total	301 (100%)	399 (100%)	403 (100%)	416 (100%)	1519 (100%)
Never	77.0%	55.7%	77.6%	71.6%	227 (68.2%)
Sometimes		21.3%	9.2%	2.7%	35 (10.5%)
Always	23.0%	23.0%	13.2%	25.7%	71 (21.3%)
	61 (100%)	122 (100%)	76 (100%)	74 (100%)	333 (100%)

Experience of Discrimination by Province of Residence and Rural or Urban

Rural or Urban	Experience of Discrimination	Province of Residence				Total
		BC	AB	SK	MB	
Rural	Never	91.9%	63.2%	79.6%	74.2%	222 (74.7%)
	Sometimes		14.7%	5.8%	3.2%	22 (7.4%)
	Always	8.1%	22.1%	14.6%	22.6%	53 (17.8%)
	Total	37 (100%)	95 (100%)	103 (100%)	62 (100%)	297 (100%)
Urban	Never	80.4%	70.3%	74.2%	75.8%	1862 (75.2%)
	Sometimes	5.6%	10.5%	7.7%	6.9%	191 (7.7%)
	Always	14.0%	19.2%	18.0%	17.3%	424 (17.1%)
	Total	622(100%)	646 (100%)	532 (100%)	677 (100%)	2477 (100%)

Source: WCSS, 2013

χ^2 (Rural)= 19.265, df=6, P≤0.004; χ^2 (Urban)= 20.530, df=6, P≤0.002



There remain issues with discrimination....

- 79% of Canadians said they would be comfortable both employing or working for someone of a different ethnic background.
 - 30% of Canadians agree that "immigrants take jobs from Canadians."
 - 55% agree that immigrants are "very important to building a stable Canadian economic future."
- 81% of British Columbians of Chinese and South Asian descent report they've experienced some type of discrimination as a result of their ethnicity.

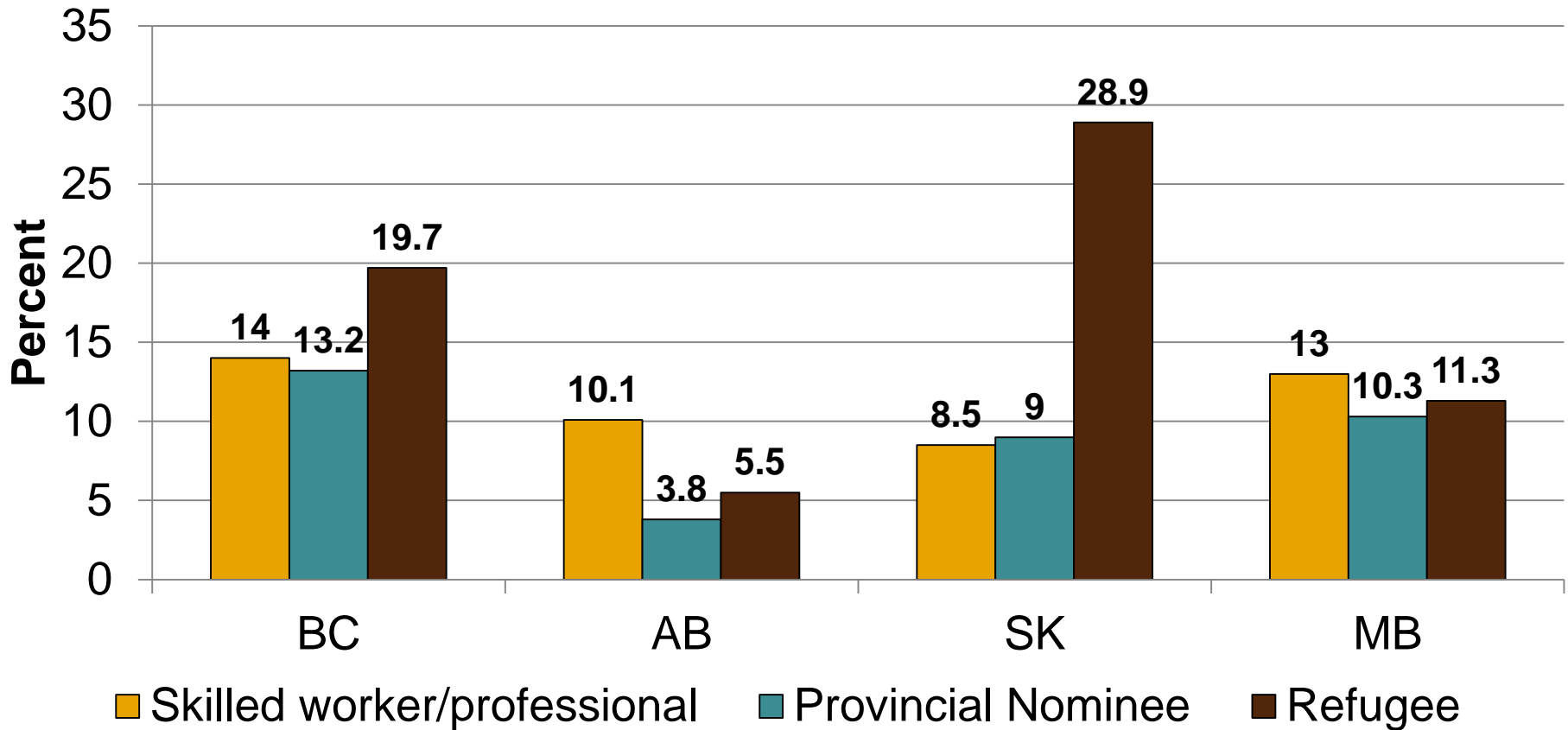
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Labour Force and Foreign Credential Recognition



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Unemployment rate by immigrant class & province



Source: WCSS, 2013

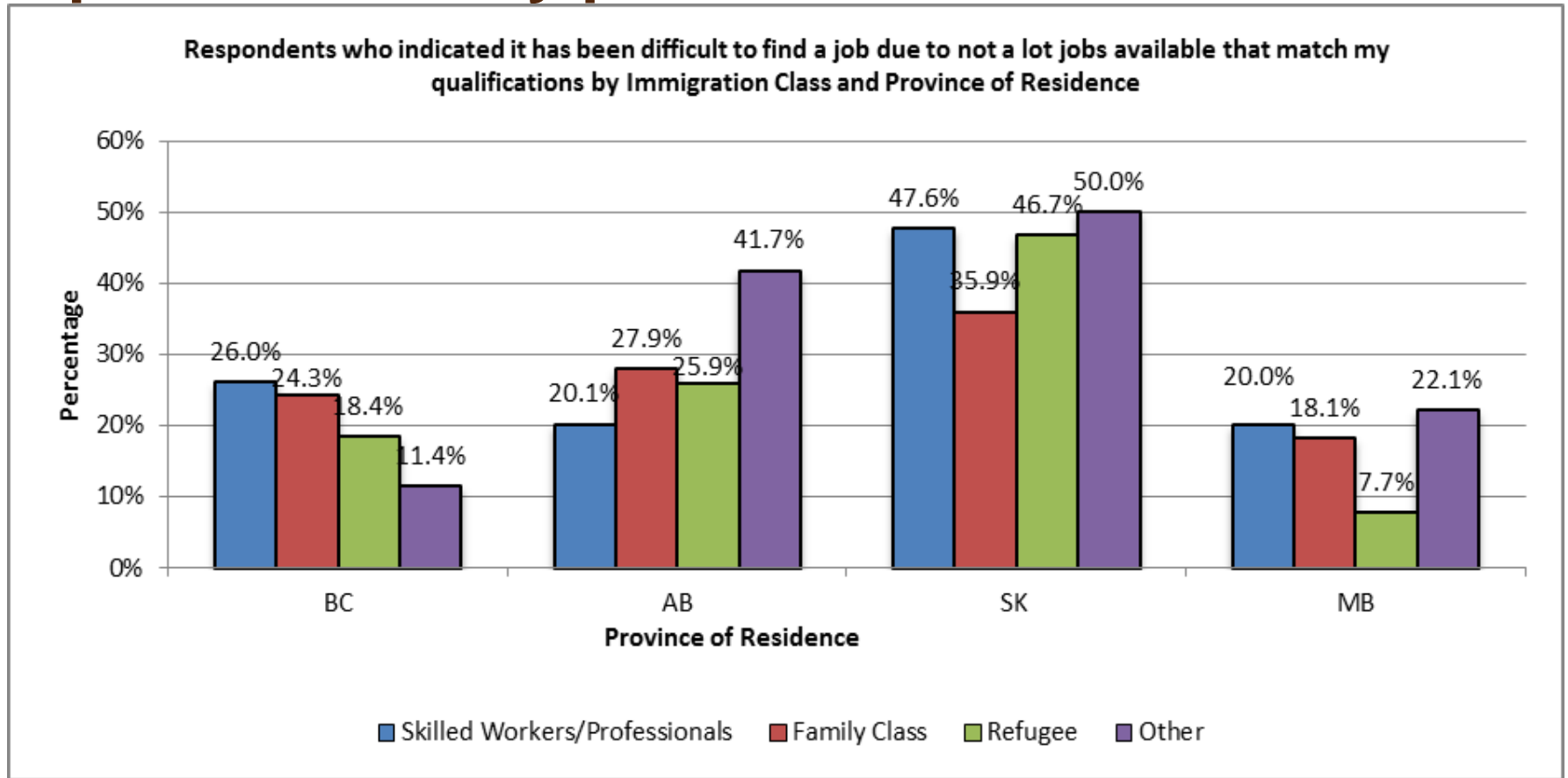
X^2 (SP)=12.672, df= 6, $p \leq 0.05$; X^2 (PN) =23.897, df=6, $p \leq 0.001$; X^2 (R) =39.315, df=6, $p \leq 0.00$



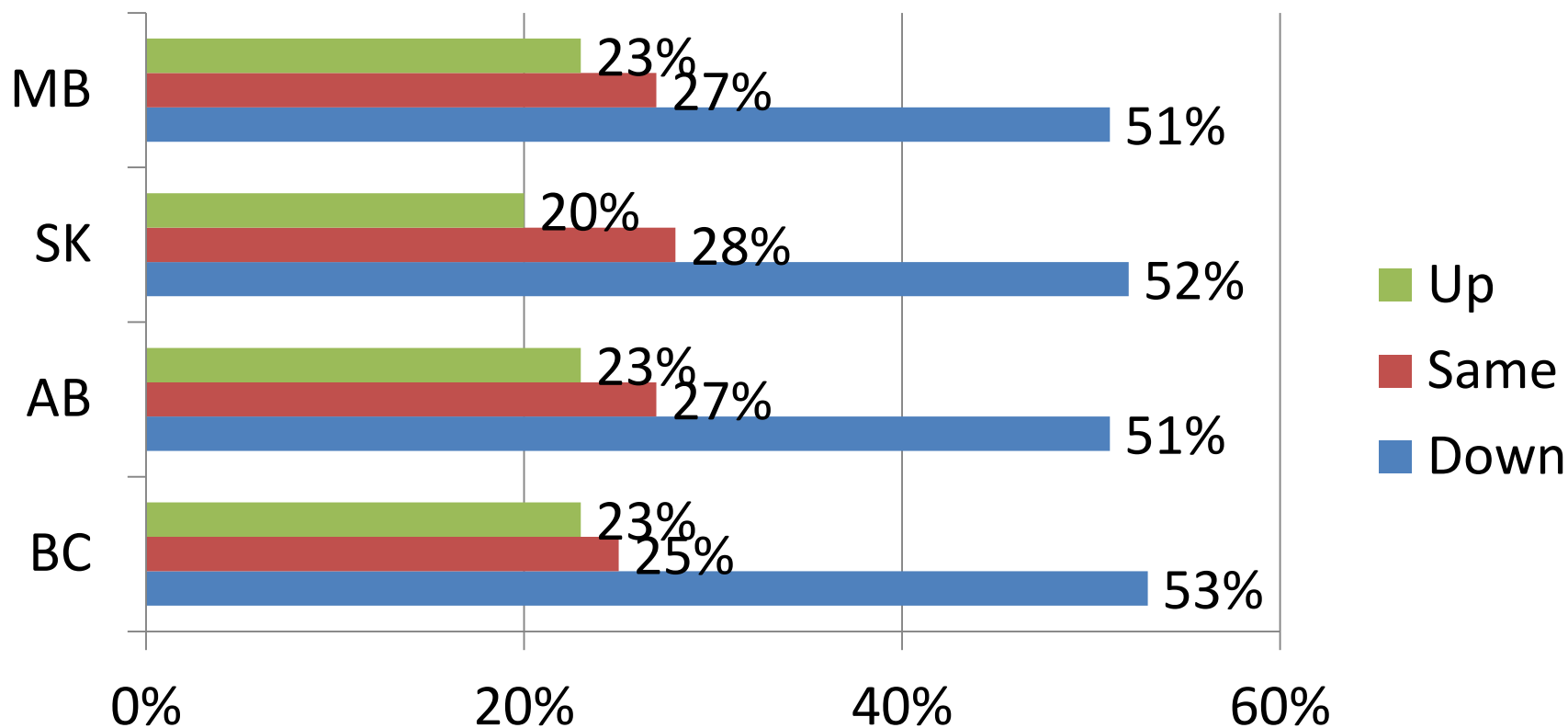
Factors influencing employment

	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba
Sex	3.12**	2.12**	2.19**	2.18**
Education in Canada	1.52*	0.48*	.34**	0.61*
English ability	1.74*	2.61**	1.66*	1.39*
Months in Canada	1.06	1.19*	1.33**	1.10
Economic class	3.5**	0.54*	2.85**	1.21
Racialized minority	1.43	1.31	0.57*	0.81

Trouble finding work that matches my qualifications by province and class

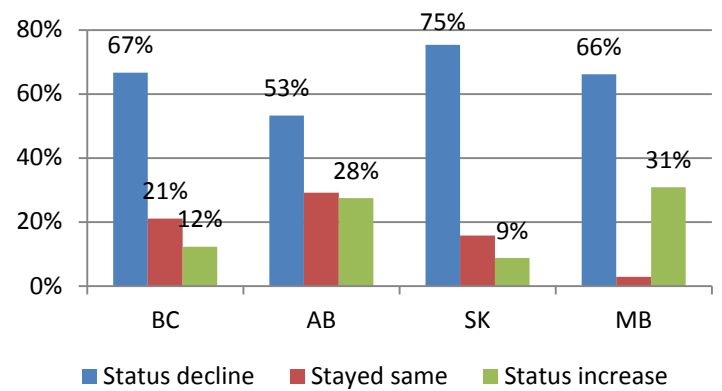


Change in post-arrival job-skill match by province

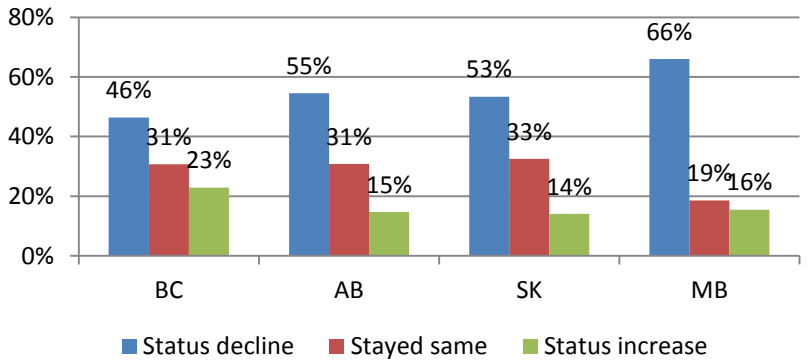


Job-skill match by province & class

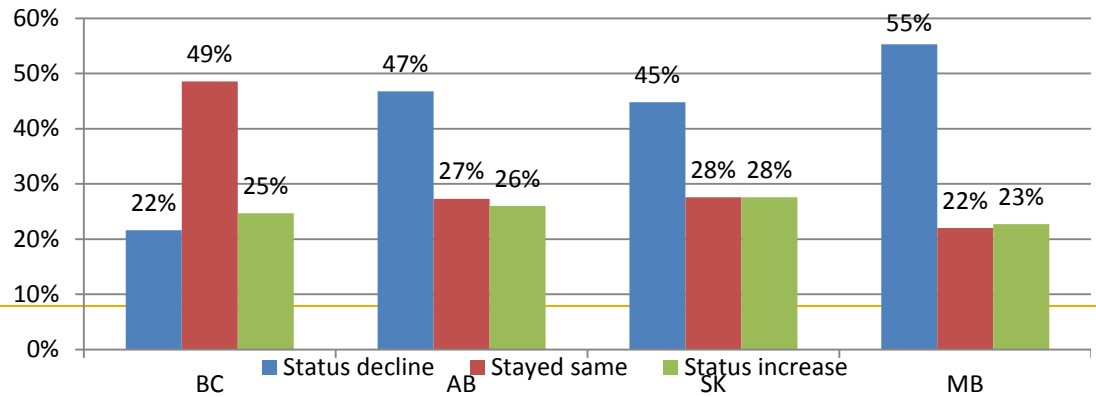
Refugees



Skilled Worker & Professional



Provincial Nominees



Family class: no statistically significant differences.



Why don't labour market outcomes rebound?

- There is “less than perfect” international transferability of skills and work experience
 - Those with higher skills experience the largest declines
- Some immigrant characteristics put them at risk of low returns
 - **Low or no language skills, “lower” quality education, lack of good job networks**
 - **Some evidence of labour market discrimination**
- There tends to be an assumption that migration is a rational decision based solely on labour market return
 - Fails to take into account the non-economic reasons for migration
 - Assumes that immigrants have full knowledge of the labour markets in which they are entering



Sense of Belonging and Discrimination

- Immigrants to BC have the lowest sense of belonging
 - New technologies allow us to ‘feel’ more connected, have more friends and allow us to maintain our contacts from great distances.
 - But how deep or meaningful are these types of contacts?
 - Contact doesn’t lead to meaningful engagement and healthy attachment comes mainly from in-person connections
 - Commitment to democracy, citizenship and belonging are greatly influenced by interpersonal connections
- But also have lowest experiences of discrimination
 - Which means one less barrier
 - But perception of discrimination seems to increase with time

Additional Findings, Reports and Information

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irw@umanitoba.ca



http://umanitoba.ca/about_IRW.html

Selected Data Sources

- Alberta Labour. *Immigrants in the Labour Force*. Edmonton: Government of Alberta, 2014
- Citizenship and Immigration Canada. *Evidence from the Pan-Canadian Settlement Outcomes Survey, 2012*. Ottawa: CIC, January 2013.
- Citizenship & Immigration Canada *IMDB Microdata File*. Ottawa: CIC 2013.
- V. Esses, L. Hamilton, L. Wilkinson, L. Zong, J. Bucklaschuk and J. Bramadat. *Western Canada Settlement Outcomes Survey*. Calgary: CIC Western Region Office, June 2013.
- Statistics Canada *Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada*. Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2007.
- Statistics Canada *Annual Labour Force Survey*, Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2014
- Statistics Canada *National Household Survey*, Ottawa: Statistics Canada, 2014

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- Research assistants: Janine Bramadat, Palak Dhiman, Kaitlyn Fraser, University of Manitoba

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