

1981 and 1986, after registering an inflow of 66,460 between 1976 and 1981.

Nonetheless, both metropolitan areas recorded gains in total population over the first half of the decade due to natural increase and arrivals from outside Canada. Migrants from outside Canada to Calgary and Edmonton numbered 23,000 and 22,000, respectively, over the 1981-86 period.

From 1981 to 1986, Canada's four largest metropolitan areas grew through population movements from elsewhere in Canada. The population gain of 80,275 in the Toronto CMA was more than twice that of any other urban centre. Ottawa-Hull CMA (34,830), Vancouver CMA (33,140) and Montreal CMA (17,775) also experienced net population gains. This is a reversal from the 1976-81 period when the CMAs of Montreal (-105,590); Toronto (-18,240) and Ottawa-Hull (-8,010) all experienced net population losses through migration within Canada.

While less than one-third of the total population of Canada lived in the three largest urban metropolitan areas (Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver) in 1986, over half of the immigrant population lived in these urban centres. The attraction of major urban centres for immigrants was most pronounced in Quebec; 87% of the province's immigrant population lived in the Montreal metropolitan area in 1986, although only 45% of the provincial population lived in the Montreal area. In Ontario, 59% of the immigrant population lived in the Toronto metropolitan area, compared to 38% of the total provincial population in this area. A similar pattern emerged in British Columbia; 62% of the immigrant population of the province resided in the Vancouver area, compared to 48% of the total provincial population in the Vancouver area.

2.10.3 Citizenship

In 1986, 21.1 million or 84% of the Canadian population were Canadian by birth and 2.9 million or 11.5% of the Canadian population

were Canadian by naturalization. From 1981 to 1986, 610,838 landed immigrants applied for and were granted Canadian citizenship.

Among the immigrant population, 79% of those eligible to obtain Canadian citizenship had obtained it by 1986. This proportion had increased slightly from the figure of 75% recorded in the 1981 Census.

The Citizenship Act came into effect on February 15, 1977. It replaced the Canadian Citizenship Act, passed in 1947, which was the first independent naturalization law to be enacted in the Commonwealth and which created the status of a Canadian citizen as distinct from that of a British subject.

The current Citizenship Act makes equality a basic tenet of the law. It makes no distinction between citizens by birth and citizens by choice. It also treats the citizenship status of married women in their own right rather than simply in relation to that of their spouses.

Administered by the Department of the Secretary of State, through 30 citizenship courts and offices, the act covers the conditions for acquisition, retention, loss and resumption of citizenship. All adult applicants for the grant of citizenship face the same requirements, which include legal admission to Canada; three years residence in Canada; basic knowledge of Canada and of one of Canada's official languages; and compliance with the national security and criminal record provisions of the Citizenship Act. The department administers federal-provincial agreements in support of citizenship and language instruction to adult immigrants and is active in the promotion of the concept and values of Canadian citizenship among the general populace. An Annual National Citizenship Week in April, coinciding with the anniversary of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, was established in 1987 to celebrate the special meaning and benefits of Canadian citizenship.

Sources

2.1 - 2.8 Census Operations Division, Statistics Canada.

2.9 Health Division, Statistics Canada.

2.10.1 Public Affairs, Department of Employment and Immigration.

2.10.2 Citizenship Registration and Promotion, Department of the Secretary of State.

2.10.3 Census Operations Division, Statistics Canada.