

INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT

BY IMMIGRATION STATUS

A COMPARISON OF MAJOR CITIES IN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC

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April 2019

Summary Report

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Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

Industry of Employment by Immigration Status A Comparison of Major Cities in Ontario and Quebec

Key Findings

- In 2016, 83.2% of workers in Ontario and 81.8% of those in Quebec were employed in services. Between 2006 and 2016, health care and social assistance accounted for the largest increases in service sector employment in both provinces.
- The share of workers employed in manufacturing declined in both provinces. It declined from 14.7% in 2006 to 10.4% in 2016 in Ontario and from 15.5% to 11.6% in Quebec. Despite the decline, manufacturing was still the third largest industrial sector by employment in both provinces in 2016.
- The declining manufacturing and growing health care and social assistance sectors are the top two sectors of employment for foreign-born workers in Ontario and Quebec. Among Canadian-born workers, retail trade and health care and social assistance services are the top two sectors of employment.
- In Canada's two major gateway cities, the employment for foreign-born workers has a bi-modal quality. On the one hand, many workers are concentrated in the manufacturing and accommodation and food services sectors where many jobs do not require post-secondary education or strong language skills. On the other hand, a large share of foreign-born workers is employed in health care and social assistance, as well as professional and technical services where some post-secondary training is often required.
- The top three industries of employment for foreign-born workers in Toronto are manufacturing (13%), retail trade (10.8%) and professional and technical services (10.6%). In Montreal, health care and social assistance employ the largest proportion (14.6%) of foreign-born workers followed by manufacturing (13%) and retail trade (11.2%).
- These broad trends in employment in Ontario and Quebec are not always found in medium-size cities like Ottawa-Gatineau, Windsor, Quebec City and Sherbrooke. To varying degrees, each city is characterized by a less diversified industrial structure than is true of the province as a whole or the Toronto and Montreal metropolitan areas.
 - Ottawa-Gatineau is dominated by public sector employment with nearly one-quarter of the labour force working in public administration. In 2016, the share of Canadian-born workers (24.3%) in this sector was much greater than that of foreign-born workers (18.6%).
 - In Quebec City, a large proportion of the labour force was employed in public administration sector (13%), but foreign-born workers were under-represented in this sector. The number of foreign-born workers in the sector was also dwarfed by the Canadian-born population since the foreign-born population in Quebec City is small.
 - Whether Canadian- or foreign-born, workers in Windsor are much more likely to be employed in manufacturing than elsewhere in Ontario. Manufacturing provided jobs for almost one-quarter of foreign-born workers and 22.5% of Canadian-born workers, a reflection of the continuing importance of goods production in Windsor.
 - With a large percentage of its labour force working in health care and social assistance (17.7%), Sherbrooke is distinguished from other CMAs. In 2016, a slightly lower proportion of foreign-born (16.2%) than Canadian-born workers were employed in the sector.

Acknowledgments

This research is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada within the Building Migrant Resilience in Cities-Immigration et resilience en milieu urbain (BMRC-IRMU) partnership (SSHRC grant number: 895-2016-1004). The authors thank all team members in Ontario and Quebec who participated in consultations about analyzing the 2016 census data used here. Special thanks to the Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN) and the Research Data Centre (RDC) at York University for providing the opportunity to access and analyze the confidential census microdata as well as to the workstations, statistical software and technical support that are needed to analyze the data. Advice given by Chang Z. Lin, the data analyst at the RDC, has been a great help in preparing the data tables for disclosure. We are truly grateful to Naolo Charles, the BMRC-IRMU knowledge mobilization officer, for editing and formatting the report.