

The local dimensions of integration:

Monitoring and evaluating Canada's Settlement Program

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Canada

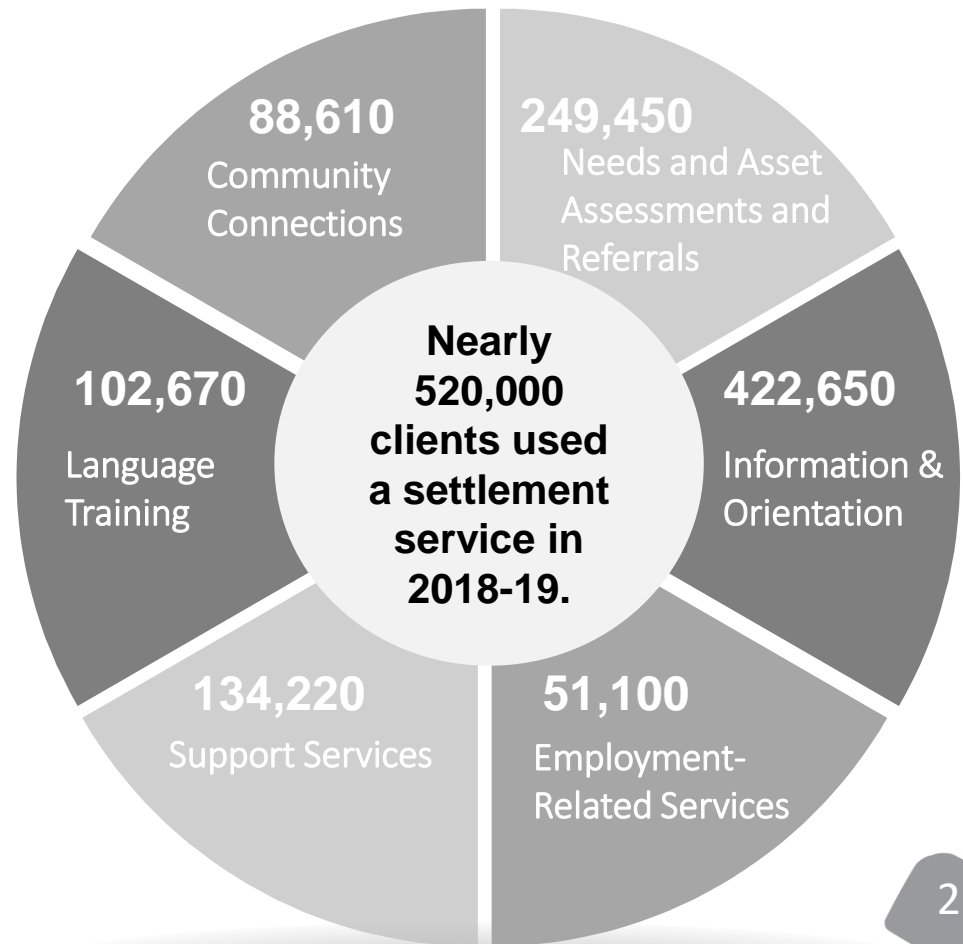
Context: Canada's Settlement Program



Settlement and integration involves **multiple players** (federal, provincial/territorial, municipal, community, employers, etc.)

Program Overview

- 500+ service providers
- Six service streams
- Capacity-building
- Professional development
- Promoting partnerships
- Scaling best practices



Settlement Program: Expected Outcomes

Immediate outcomes

- ✓ Consistent and responsive Settlement Program delivery.
- ✓ Access to IRCC-funded settlement services is facilitated.
- ✓ Increased understanding of client needs, appropriate linkages to other services.
- ✓ Clients increase knowledge of life in Canada.
- ✓ Clients improve official language skills.
- ✓ Clients acquire knowledge, skills, and connections to prepare for the labour market.
- ✓ Clients increase participation in communities and social networks.
- ✓ Partners deliver responsive and coordinated settlement and community services.

Intermediate outcomes

- ✓ Clients access services that meet their needs.
- ✓ Clients make informed decisions about life in Canada.
- ✓ Clients use an official language to function in Canadian society.
- ✓ Clients participate in the Canadian labour market.
- ✓ Clients are connected to communities and institutions.
- ✓ Communities foster welcoming environments for immigrants.

Ultimate outcome

- ✓ **Canada benefits from the settlement and integration of clients.**

Measuring outcomes (evaluation findings)



Settlement Program Evaluation (2017)

Found that the main expected outcomes of the program are being met.



Settlement needs are being assessed.



Referrals to appropriate services are being made.



Clients are increasing their knowledge and skills.



A variety of societal factors contribute to overall client outcomes.

Lines of Evidence



Client, non-client and service provider surveys.



Administrative and financial data.



Interviews with key informants.



Document and literature review.



Case studies.

Recommendation

Review reporting requirements; streamline data collection; enhance analytical tools, with a view to **better attributing client outcomes to services.**



Measuring outcomes at the program and project levels

iCARE

- System used by IRCC-funded service providers to report on clients served.
- Contains a wealth of information on settlement clients and their **service usage**.

Client and Non-Client Surveys

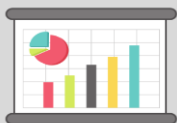
- Enables comparison of client vs. non-client outcomes
 - Information about Canada; official language knowledge; labour market; community connections

Data Linkages

- Linking iCARE data with Statistics Canada's Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB).
- Allows for a more **direct examination** of the Settlement Program's impact on immigrants' economic, social and cultural integration.

Annual Project Performance Report

- Narrative reports from IRCC-funded service providers
 - Locations
 - Partnerships & resources
 - Challenges & opportunities
 - Successes
 - Needs assessment approaches
 - Performance assessment approaches

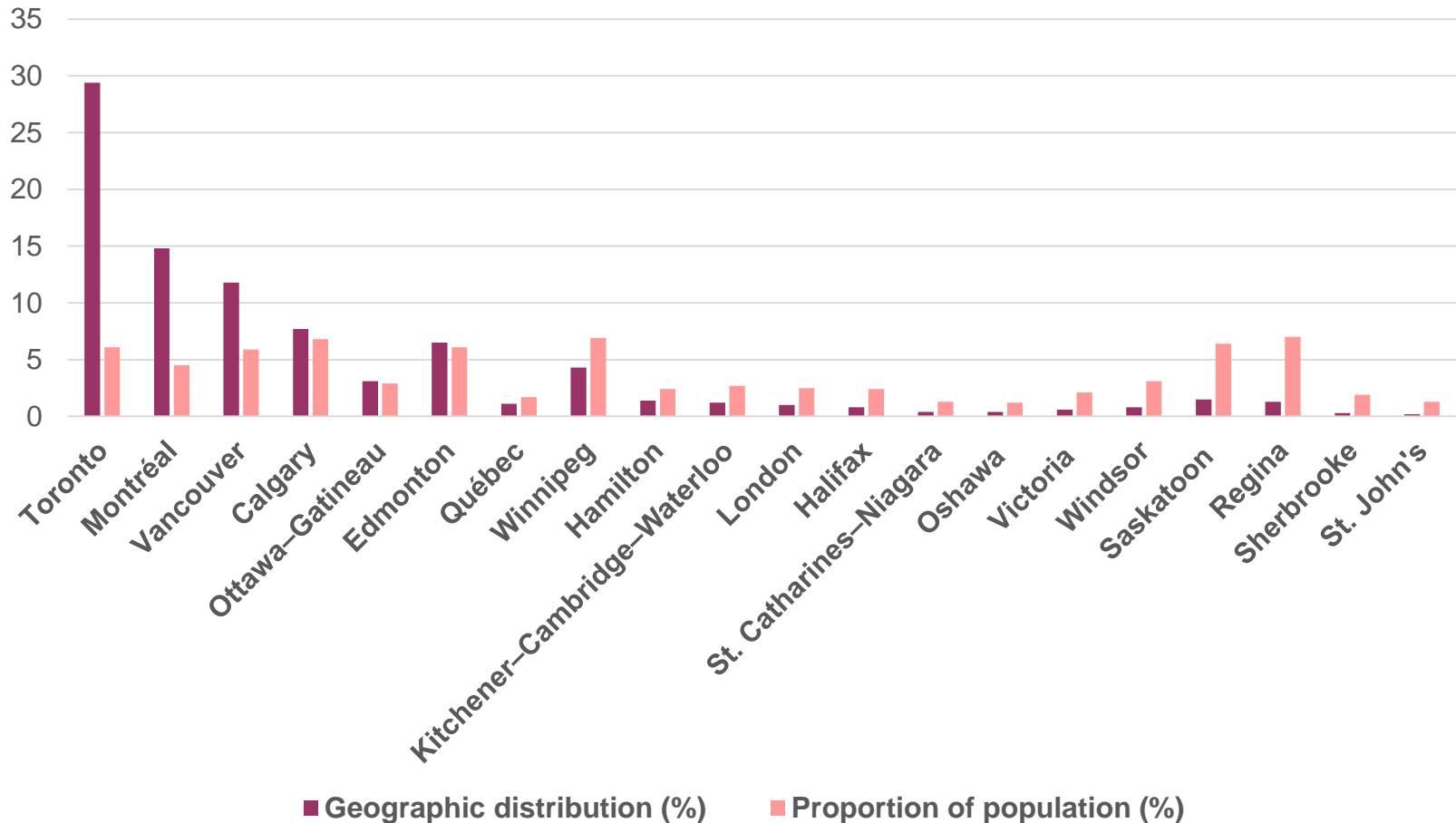


Dedicated Outcomes Analysis Unit

- Established in 2018 to improve capacity to analyze program data and outcomes.
- Developing first-ever **Report on Settlement Outcomes** (forthcoming).

Integration outside of large urban centres

Geographic distribution of recent newcomers* and proportion within population of Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)

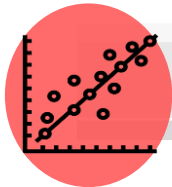


*Landed immigrants who had been in Canada for five years or less.

Integration outside of large urban centres (cont'd)

Beyond the Big City

Report co-funded by IRCC and Government of Ontario; quantitative comparative analysis of attraction and retention factors in urban areas vs. small cities in Ontario.



Close to linear relationship between immigrant stock and retention rates.

Attraction Factors (+)

- ✓ Perceptions of the community
- ✓ Presence of family, friends, other immigrants
- ✓ Employment, educational opportunities
- ✓ Access to cultural and religious amenities
- ✓ Employer supports

Retention Factors (-)

- ✗ Lack of immigrant population
- ✗ Lack of cultural and religious amenities
- ✗ Lack of adequate settlement services
- ✗ Lack of fulfilling employment
- ✗ Inadequate housing, transportation
- ✗ Racism and intolerance

Harnessing data to inform settlement and retention in small centres

Atlantic Immigration Pilot

Employer-Driven



Active employer role in the **recruitment** and **retention** of candidates, supporting language training, housing, transportation, etc.

Enhanced Settlement Support



First immigration program **to require all participants** to obtain a settlement plan to enhance integration.

New Delivery Approach



Designed and delivered in **partnership** with Atlantic provincial governments.

Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot

A **community-driven model**, combining meaningful employment with wrap-around community support to encourage newcomers to put down roots and stay in communities in the long-term.



Meaningful
economic
opportunity

+



**Welcoming
Community**
“whole of family”
approach to recruitment
and settlement

=



Sense of belonging
promotes retention

Questions

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