



# The Demographic Context of Social Diversity and the Integration of Canada's New Second Generation

**Feng Hou**  
**Statistics Canada**

# Outline of Presentation



1. Overview of the educational and labour market outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
2. Canada's social and policy environments
3. The demographic context of social diversity in Canada
4. The impact of the demographic context
  - Group differences within 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
  - Changes over time
  - International comparisons
5. What about the future?

# 1. Overview of the educational and labour market outcomes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation

- Visible minority second generation does better in educational outcomes than the 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-higher generation
- The second generation performs better in Canada than in many other countries

# New 2<sup>nd</sup> generation is a fast growing component of Canada's population

Population share by generational status in Canada, 2006

	<u>Total population</u>		<u>Age 15-24</u>		<u>Age 25-34</u>	
	Visible minorities	Non-visible	Visible minorities	Non-visible	Visible minorities	Non-visible
	Per cent		Per cent		Per cent	
Adult immigrants	8.6	6.5	3.9	1.0	11.5	3.6
1.5 generation	2.3	2.6	5.8	2.5	3.0	2.0
2nd generation	1.8	11.2	7.4	11.9	4.2	13.9
3rd-and-higher	3.2	63.8	0.7	66.8	0.4	61.4

Source: the 2006 Census of Population

# New 2<sup>nd</sup> generation is more highly educated

Educational levels and earnings by generation status, age 25-34

		<u>Men</u>		<u>Women</u>	
		Visible minorities	Non-visible	Visible minorities	Non-visible
% with university degree					
	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	39.1	27.5	49.9	38.5
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -and-higher	23.7	18.4	26.9	27.1
Mean earnings in 2005\$					
	2 <sup>nd</sup> generation	39800	44200	35000	32900
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -and-higher	37600	40800	28700	28700

Source: the 2006 Census of Population

# 2<sup>nd</sup> generation outcomes in selected countries

Educational and employment outcomes, men aged 20-29, around 2007										
		CAN	AUS	USA	UK	BEL	FRA	DEU	NOR	CHE
% with higher education										
	2 <sup>nd</sup> -generation	47	21	30	34	10	23	6	42	19
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -and-high generation	30	15	29	27	31	31	13	53	26
Unemployment rate (%)										
	2 <sup>nd</sup> -generation	7	6	9	15	28	21	27	4	...
	3 <sup>rd</sup> -and-high generation	8	6	9	9	11	12	16	3	4

Source: OECD 2010 Equal Opportunities? The labour Market Integration of the Children of immigrants

# 2<sup>nd</sup> generation outcomes by race/ethnicity

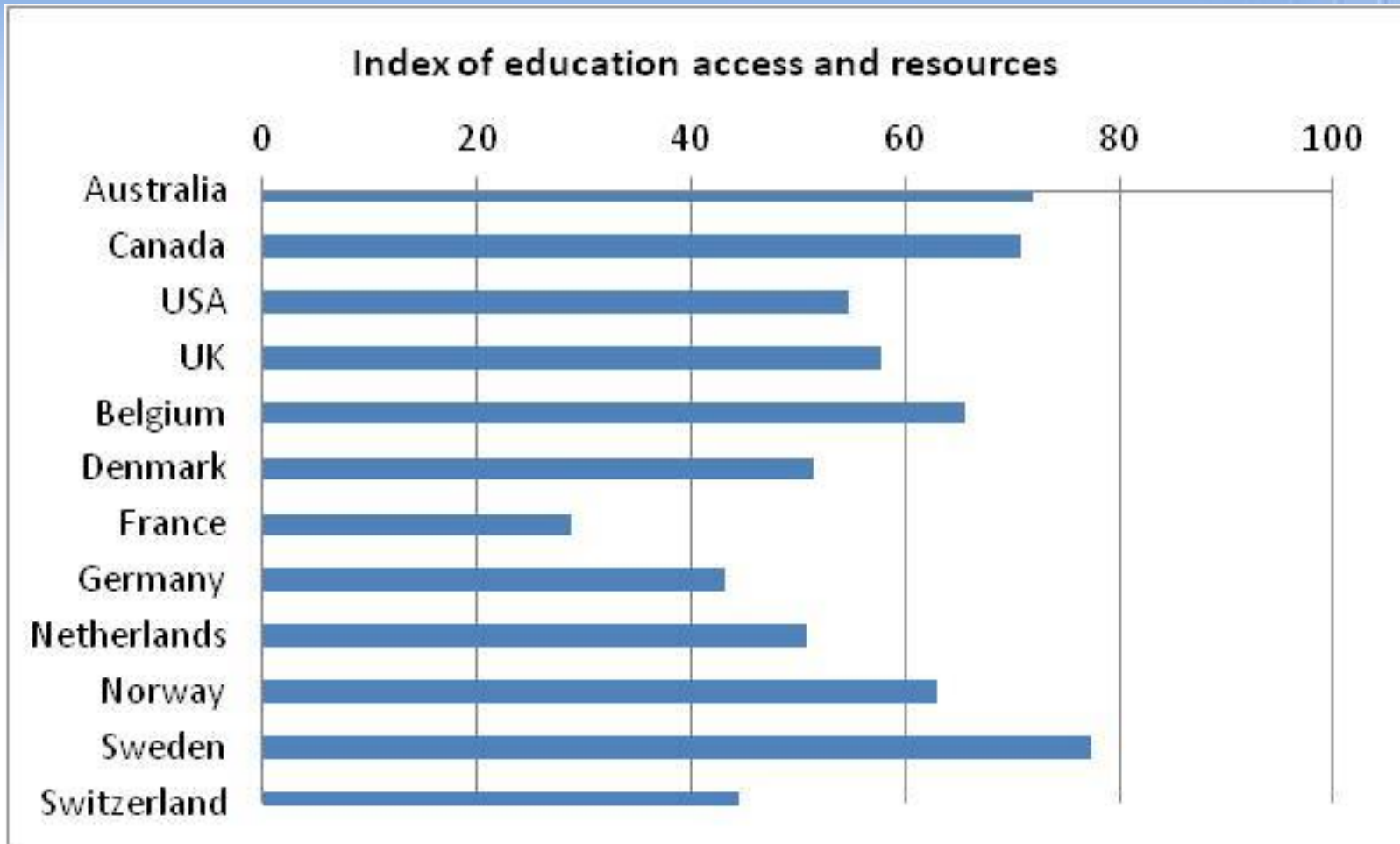
Education and income by generation status, age 25-39, around 2001				
		Canada	Australia	US
% with university degree				
	Second generation whites	27.6	19.4	37.9
	Second generation non-whites	43.8	19.5	27.7
	3rd-and-higher generation whites	19.2	18.1	31.6
AEA household income (\$)				
	Second generation whites	33000	30200	35200
	Second generation non-whites	33000	31500	30100
	3rd-and-higher generation whites	29600	30000	33100
Source: Reitz, Zhang, and Hawkins, Social Science Research 2011				

## **2. Canada's social and policy environments for the integration of the second generation**

- Compared with other large developed countries, Canada provides the most favourable environments for the integration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
- However, the direct impact of such environments remains an empirical question

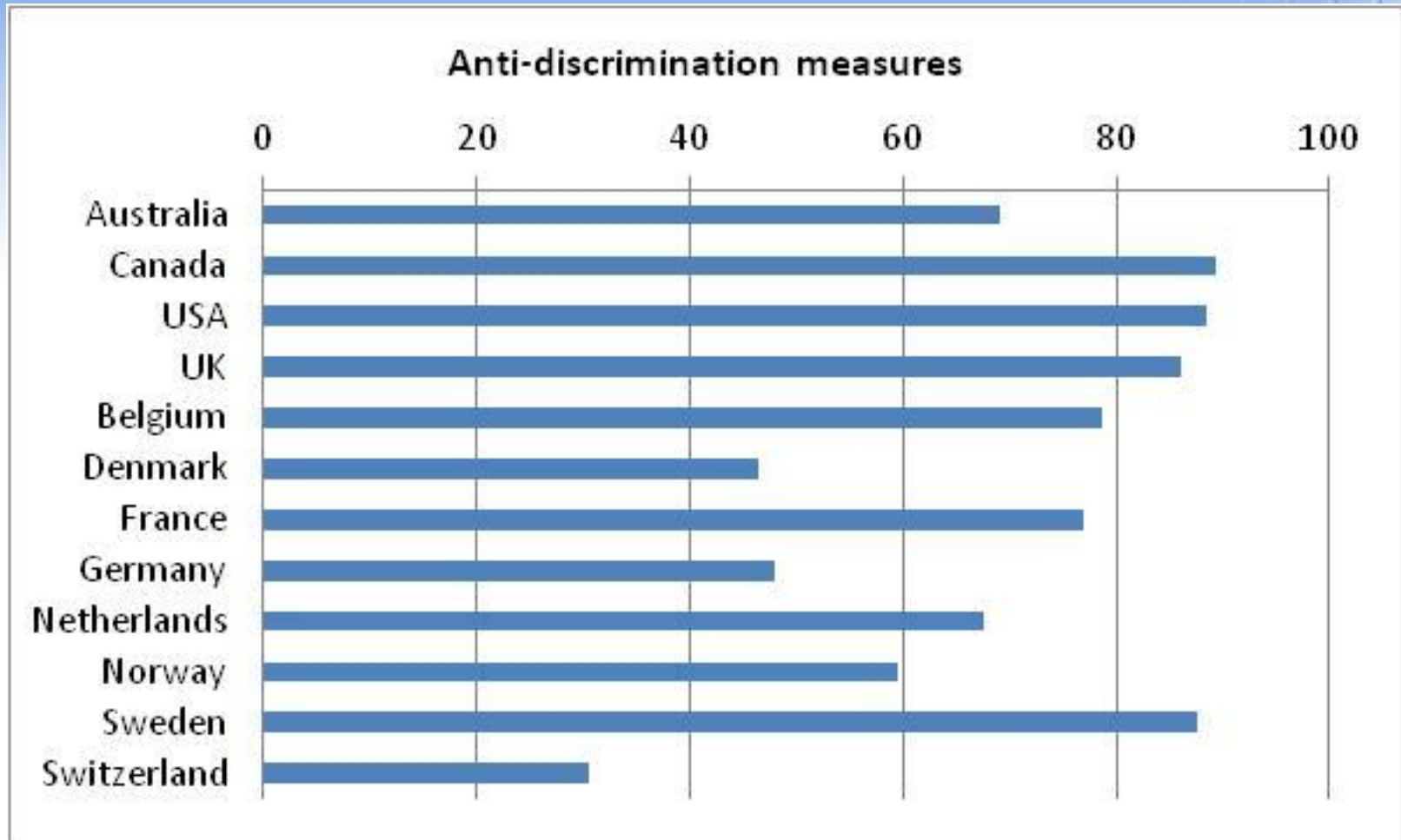


# Canada among leaders in the learning environment for children of immigrants



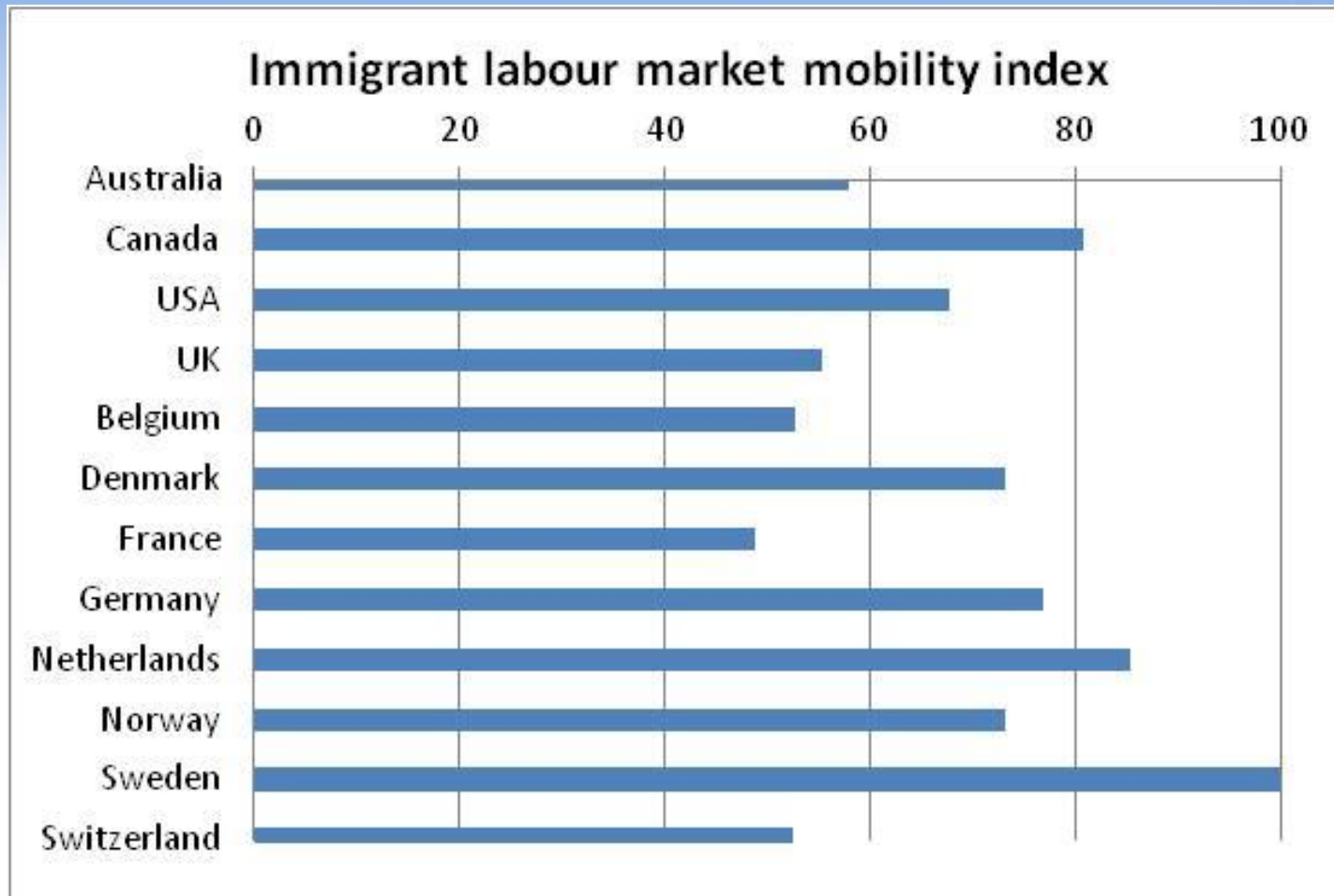
Source: Migration Integration Policy Index 2010

# Also leads in anti-discrimination measures



Source: Migration Integration Policy Index 2010

# Among the best in integrating immigrants into the labour market



Source: Migration Integration Policy Index 2010

# To what extent do cross-country differences in social and policy environments matter?



- Are there other important factors at work?

### **3. The demographic context of social diversity in Canada**

- For several decades, Canada has admitted immigrants more likely to succeed in the labour market
- The source region composition of immigrants is very different across countries
- Canada's racial diversity is characterized by the presence of multiple small-size minority groups

# Canada-US differences in immigration selection – before and since 1990s

Characteristics of domestic-born and recent immigrants, men, age 25-54

		Canada				USA			
		1981	1991	2001	2006	1980	1990	2000	2005
with university degrees		%							
	Domestic-born	14	16	18	20	24	27	29	29
	Recent immigrants	26	28	53	60	33	34	36	35
Speaking non-official language at home									
	Domestic-born	1	1	3	3	6	6	7	8
	Recent immigrants	47	69	82	82	85	87	88	90
Sources: Canadian census, US census and ACS									

# Canada-US differences in immigration source regions



Source regions of immigrants aged 25 and over									
	Canada				The United States				
	1971	1981	1991	2006	1970	1980	1990	2006	
	%				%				
Canada/USA	8.9	7.0	5.5	3.8	9.5	7.1	4.6	2.4	
Caribbean, C/S America	2.8	5.9	9.1	11.1	16.5	28.5	40.5	51.9	
Northern/Western Europe	47.7	38.3	30.7	19.1	20.7	20.0	8.3	3.9	
Southern/Eastern Europe	34.3	33.7	28.3	21.1	44.7	25.3	18.7	10.7	
Asia	4.6	11.9	22.1	38.3	7.7	17.0	25.5	27.3	
African	1.1	2.3	3.5	5.6	0.5	1.3	1.9	3.3	
Other countries	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	
Source: Canadian Census and US Census/ACS									

# Canada-US differences in racial/ethnic composition – the presence of large minority groups



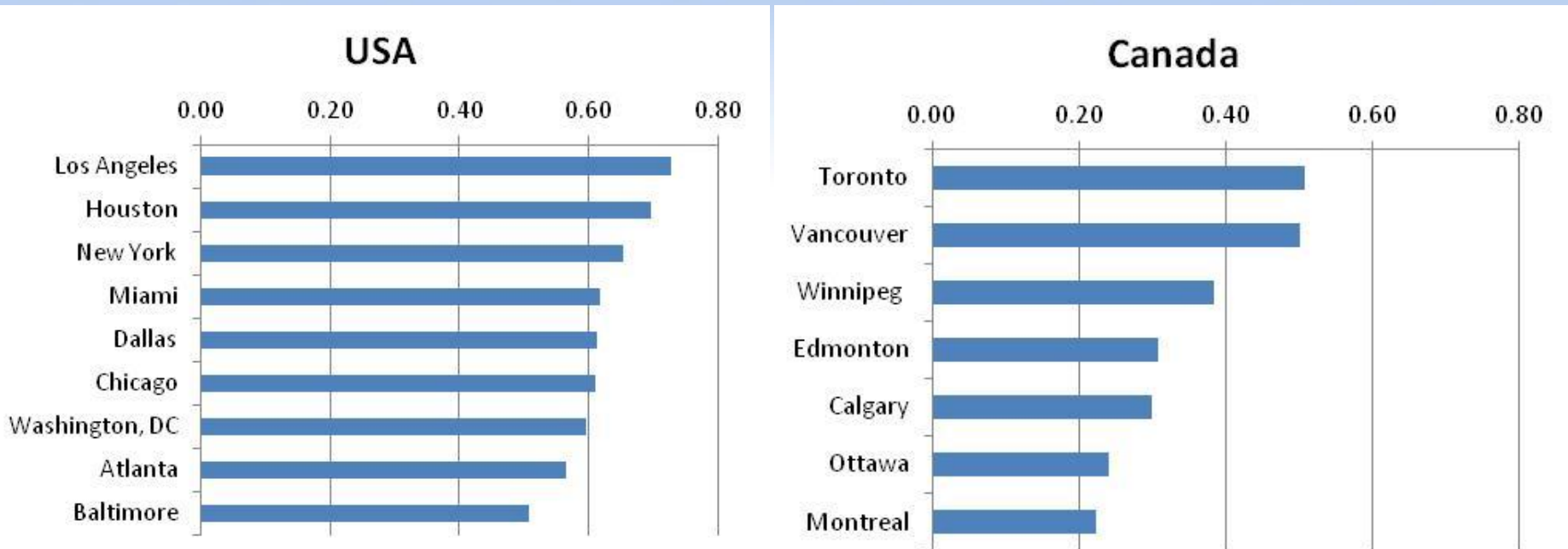
Percentage distribution of major population groups, 2006

	Whites	Blacks	Asians	Hispanics	Aboriginals	Others
Canada	79.2	2.5	10.6	1.0	3.6	3.2
US	65.6	12.9	5.2	9.3	0.7	6.3

Source: the 2006 Canadian Census and 2005/07 US ACS



# Diversity in metropolitan area



Racial diversity index based on 6 population groups

Note: the index is calculated as  $D = 1 - \sum p_i * p_i, i = 1 \dots 6$ .

## 4. The impact of the demographic context

- Large group differences in outcomes within the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
- The group composition affects the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation's overall outcomes
- The small size of many minority groups increases the minority-majority interaction

# Large group differences in outcomes

Difference between children of immigrants and the 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-higher generation in university participation, age 23, 2008

Source region	Observed difference	Adjusted difference	% of gap accounted for
	Percentage points		
China	40 *	24 *	40%
India	28 *	9	66%
Other East, Southeast Asia	14 *	6	56%
Other Asia	28 *	21 *	26%
US/UK	3	-1	
Caribbean, C/S America	-3	-3	
Northern, Western Europe	11	6	51%
Other Europe	16 *	10 *	39%
Africa and others	23 *	12 *	49%

Source: Youth in Transition survey, Picot and Hou 2011

Note: the university participation for 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-higher generation is 32%

# Cohort differences in educational outcomes of immigrant children

Difference in university completion rates between immigrant children and 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-higher generation, age 25-34

		Observed	Adjusted for composition
Men		Percentage-point difference	
	1960s cohort	5.2 *	2.6 *
	1970s cohort	6.6 *	0.4
	1980s cohort	8.4 *	-1.3 *
Women			
	1960s cohort	5.2 *	1.9 *
	1970s cohort	5.7 *	0.2
	1980s cohort	7.1 *	-2.1 *

Source: Bonikowska and Hou, IMR 2010

# Canada and the US share similar group differences in education

University completion rates among domestic-born and childhood immigrants, age 25 to 34, by racial/ethnic group, 2006

	Canada		USA	
	Rates %	Ratio to the mean	Rates %	Ratio to the mean
<u>National mean</u>	26	1.0	30	1.0
Chinese	60	2.3	73	2.5
South Asian	49	1.8	70	2.3
Black	24	0.9	17	0.6
Filipino	30	1.2	42	1.4
West Asian	39	1.5	51	1.7
Korean, Japanese	53	2.0	63	2.1
Hispanic	19	0.7	16	0.5
Aboriginals	8	0.3	13	0.4
French	26	1.0	31	1.0
German	20	0.8	36	1.2
Italian	31	1.2	41	1.4
Portuguese	17	0.7	28	0.9
British	29	1.1	36	1.2

# Canada, Australia and the US share similarly group differences in income

Difference b/w 2<sup>nd</sup> generation groups and 3<sup>rd</sup>-and-higher generation, age 25-39

	Observed difference			Adjusted difference		
	Canada	Australia	US	Canada	Australia	US
<u>AEA income (\$)</u>						
White	3300	100	2090	450	-1450	-120
Afro-Caribbean black	-760		-4700	-4260		-6370
Chinese	7780	6460	8940	1160	-1810	980
South Asian	3480	9120	7330	-2210	1310	-1560
Other Asian	4640	5300	4620	-710	170	-290
Other minorities	650	180	-4780	-3680	-4180	-4150

Source: Reitz, Zhang, and Hawkins, Social Science Research 2011

## 5. What about the future?



- What we know about the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation outcomes is largely based on the experience of those whose immigrant parents arrived pre-1980s
- Will deteriorating outcomes among adult immigrants in both Canada and U.S. since the 1980s negatively affect educational and labour market outcomes of their 2<sup>nd</sup> generation in the years to come?

# The future is brighter in Canada



Selection of immigrants in the 1990s and 2000s has set up conditions for very positive outcomes for their children

- Increased immigrant education
- Increased shares of groups whose 2<sup>nd</sup> generation tends to have good educational/labour market outcomes
- High level of upward educational mobility between immigrants and their children



# Likely different in the US



- High concentration of immigrants from Latin America
- The educational level of adult immigrants stagnant relative to the domestic-born
- Weaker upward educational mobility between immigrants and their children

# Summary



- ❑ The success of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation in Canada is a joint result of social and policy environments and demographics; their relative roles may have changed
- ❑ Large group differences within the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
- ❑ The effect of group composition
- ❑ Relative small group size affects inter-group dynamics
- ❑ Education is key to the success of new second generation
- ❑ Immigration in the last two decades predetermines future positive outcomes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation