Immigration Data in Canada

A story of Statistics Canada and Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada collaboration

Delivering insight through data for a better Canada

Context of immigration in Canada

Non-permanent residents

- Asylum seekers
- Persons with a work or study permit

Immigrants

- **Economic immigrants** (~60%): Contributing to Canada's economy
- **Immigrants sponsored by family** (~27%): Reuniting with family members
- **Refugees** (~12%): Seeking protection and escaping persecution

In 2016, immigrants represented 21.9% of the Canadian population.

*Actual percentages by admission category vary year to year. Values shown are based on averages from 2000-2016

Various data sources are available to better understand immigration in Canada

Census

Surveys

- General Social Survey (GSS)
- Canadian Community Health Survey
- Labour Force Survey
- Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
- Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (2000/01 cohort)

Integrated data sources

- Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB)
- IMDB - Canadian Employer-Employee Dynamics Database
- IMDB – Census
- IMDB – GSS
- IMDB – Discharge Abstract Database (Hospitalizations)
- And more…

Census of Population

- The Census provides a cross-sectional snapshot of the population every 5 years.
- The most recent Census was conducted on May 10, 2016.
- New variables on admission category of immigrants added to the 2016 Census as a result of STC-IRCC collaboration

The Census of Population is a key data source on immigration in Canada

- **Place of birth**
- **Immigration**
  - landed immigrants / permanent residents
  - non-permanent residents
  - year of immigration (can identify recent immigrants)
  - admission category and applicant type
- **Citizenship**
  - Canadian citizens by birth / by naturalization
  - citizens of other countries
  - multiple citizenships
- **Generation status and place of birth of parents**

- **Other topics…**
  - **Language**
    - mother tongue, home & work languages
    - knowledge of official languages and non-official languages
  - **Ethnocultural characteristics**
  - **Labour**
    - Labour force status
    - Industry and occupation of employment
    - Full-time vs. part-time
  - **Education**
    - Highest degree, diploma, certificate
    - Major field of study
    - Location of study (e.g. inside or outside Canada)
  - **Income**
  - **Housing**
  - **And more…**

Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB)

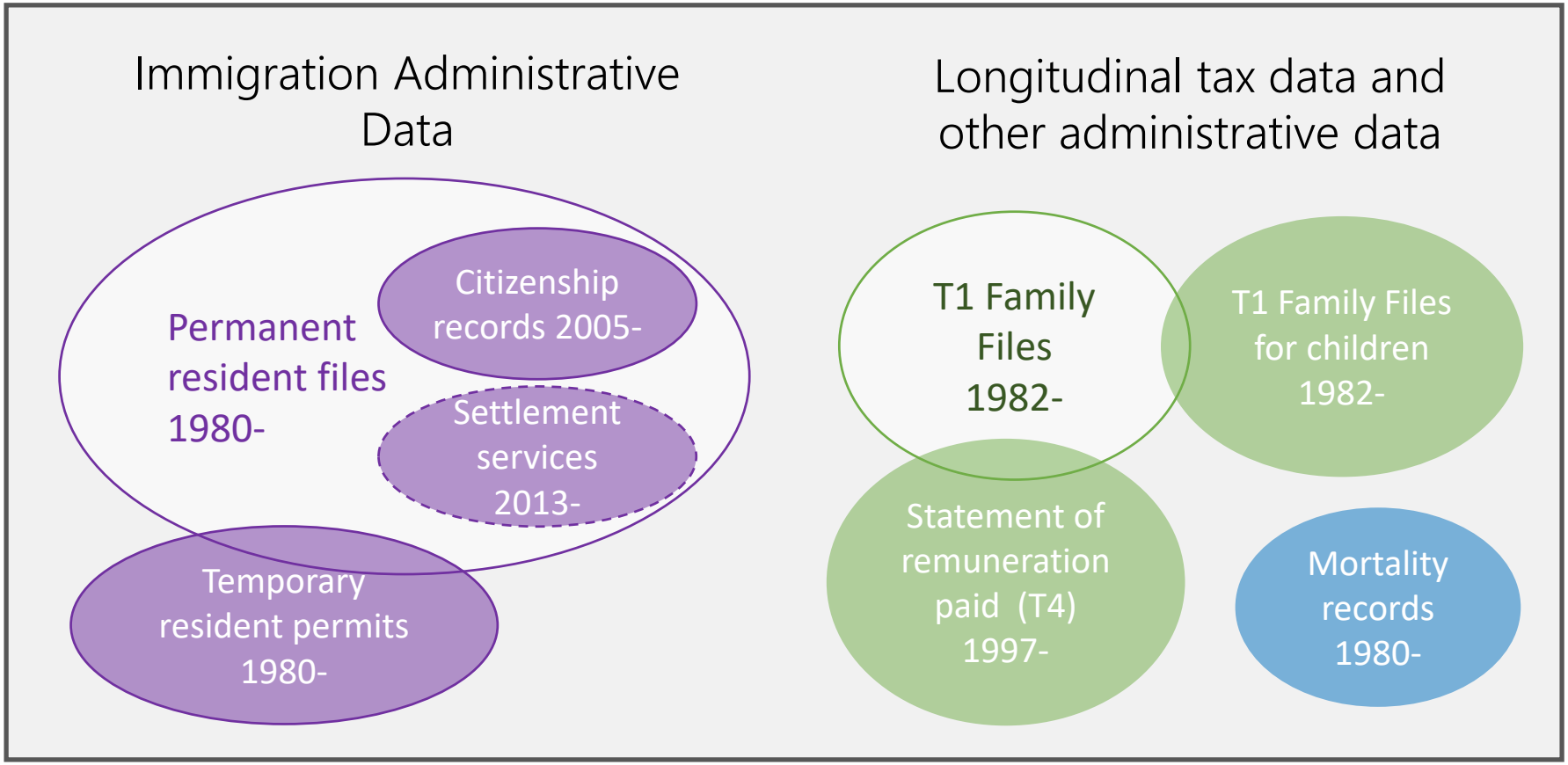
- The IMDB connects immigration and citizenship data with longitudinal socio-economic outcomes, facilitating broad and detailed analysis and research

- The IMDB is updated every year with the latest tax information

- Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and Statistics Canada have been in collaboration extensively on its development since its beginning

IMDB: Coverage

Target population: All immigrants admitted to Canada since 1980
All non-permanent resident permits since 1980

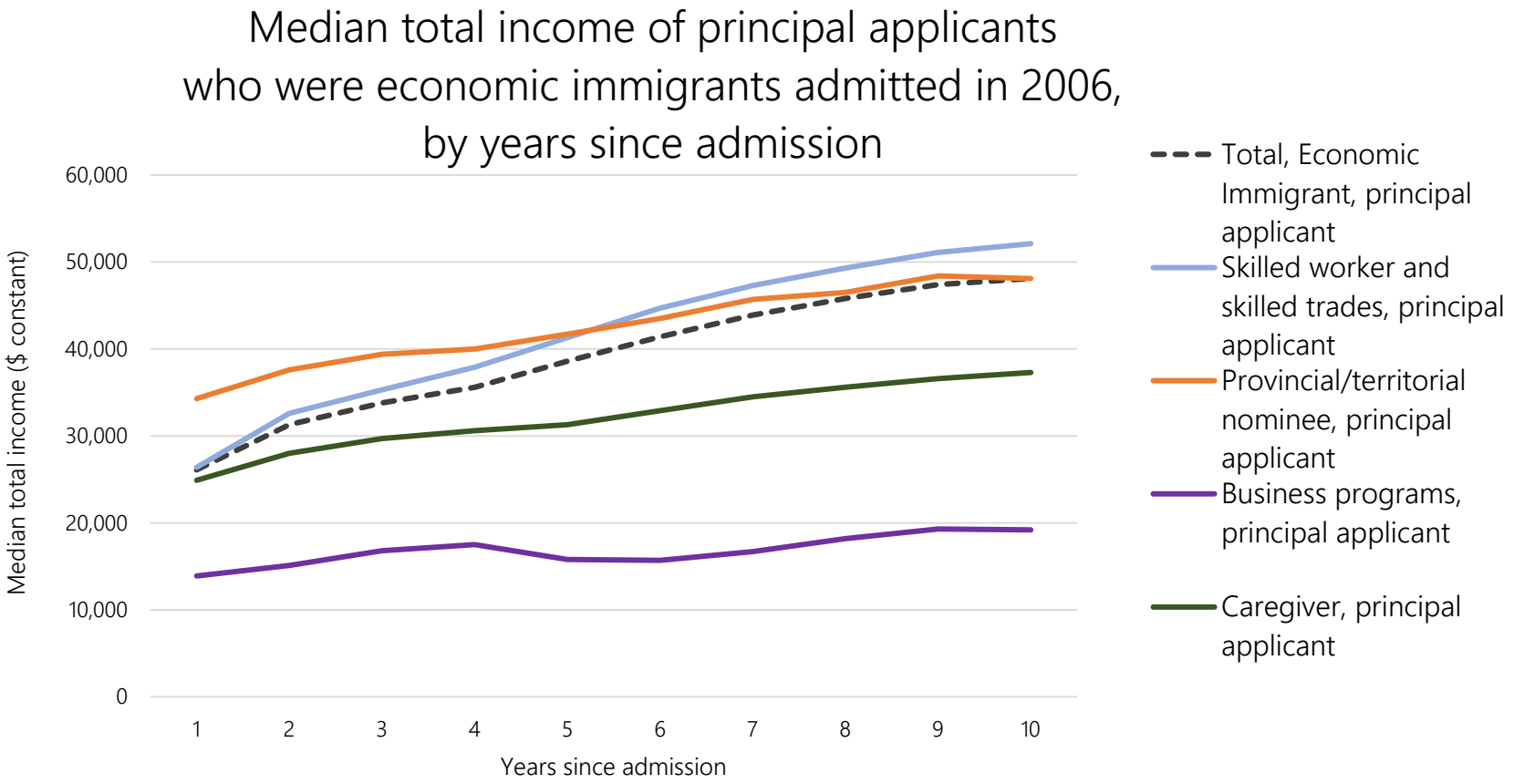


IMDB: Content

Immigration administrative data	Longitudinal tax data

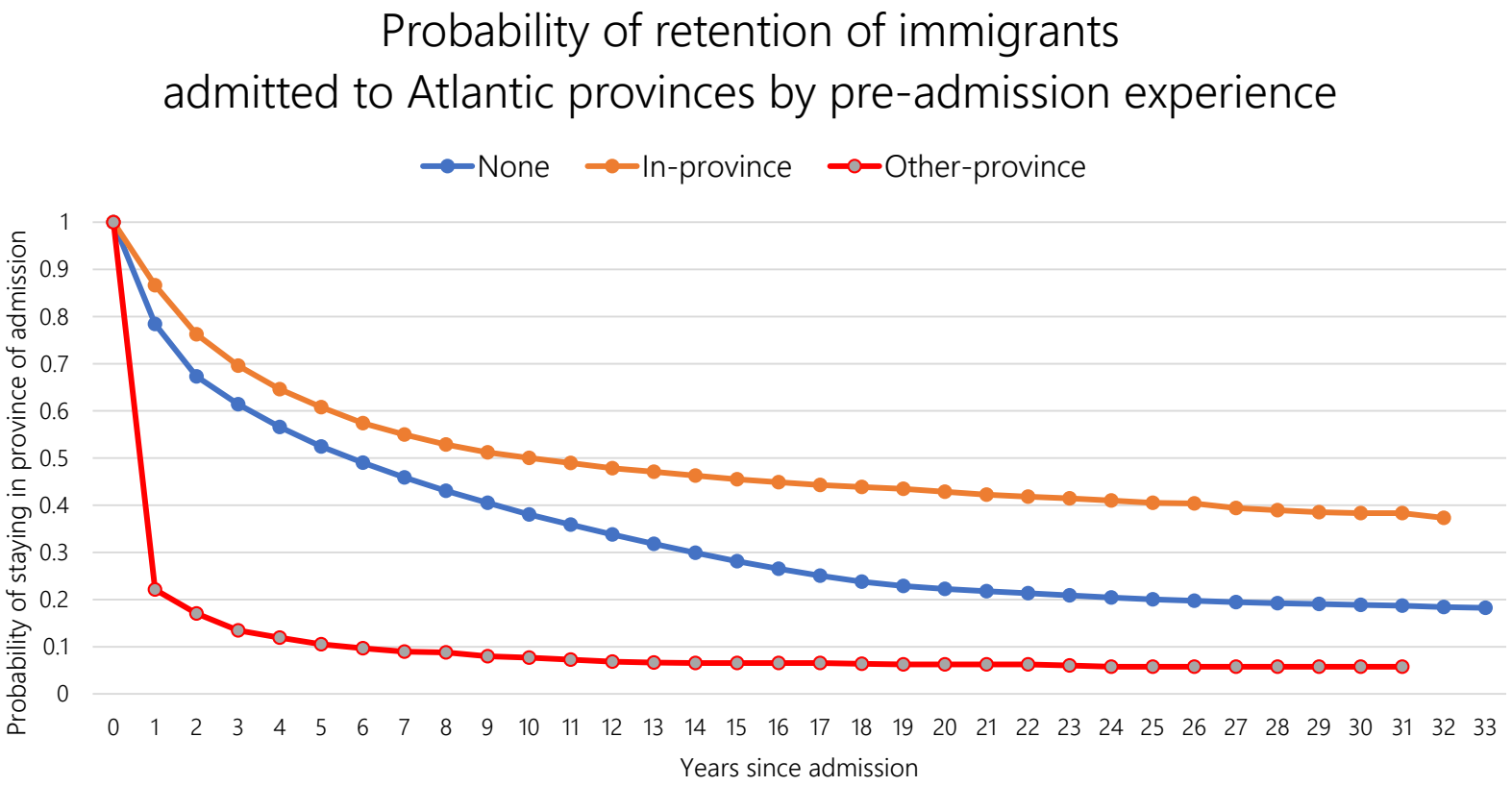
• Information at admission for permanent residents:
  • Admission category
  • Admission date
  • Country of origin
  • Intended place of residence in Canada
  • Intended occupation, and more…
• Non-permanent resident permits:
  • Document type (refugee claims, work or study permits)
  • Effective and valid date, and more…
• Other:
  • Date of citizenship acquisition
  • and much more…
	• Individual and family level incomes:
	  • Employment income
	  • Social assistance
	  • Industry (NAICS)
	  • Tax credit for post-secondary education
	  • Place of residence for taxation year
	• Family composition:
	  • Family size
	  • Marital status
	  • Number of children, by age
	  • Number of immigrants in the family
	  • and much more…

Measuring trajectories…



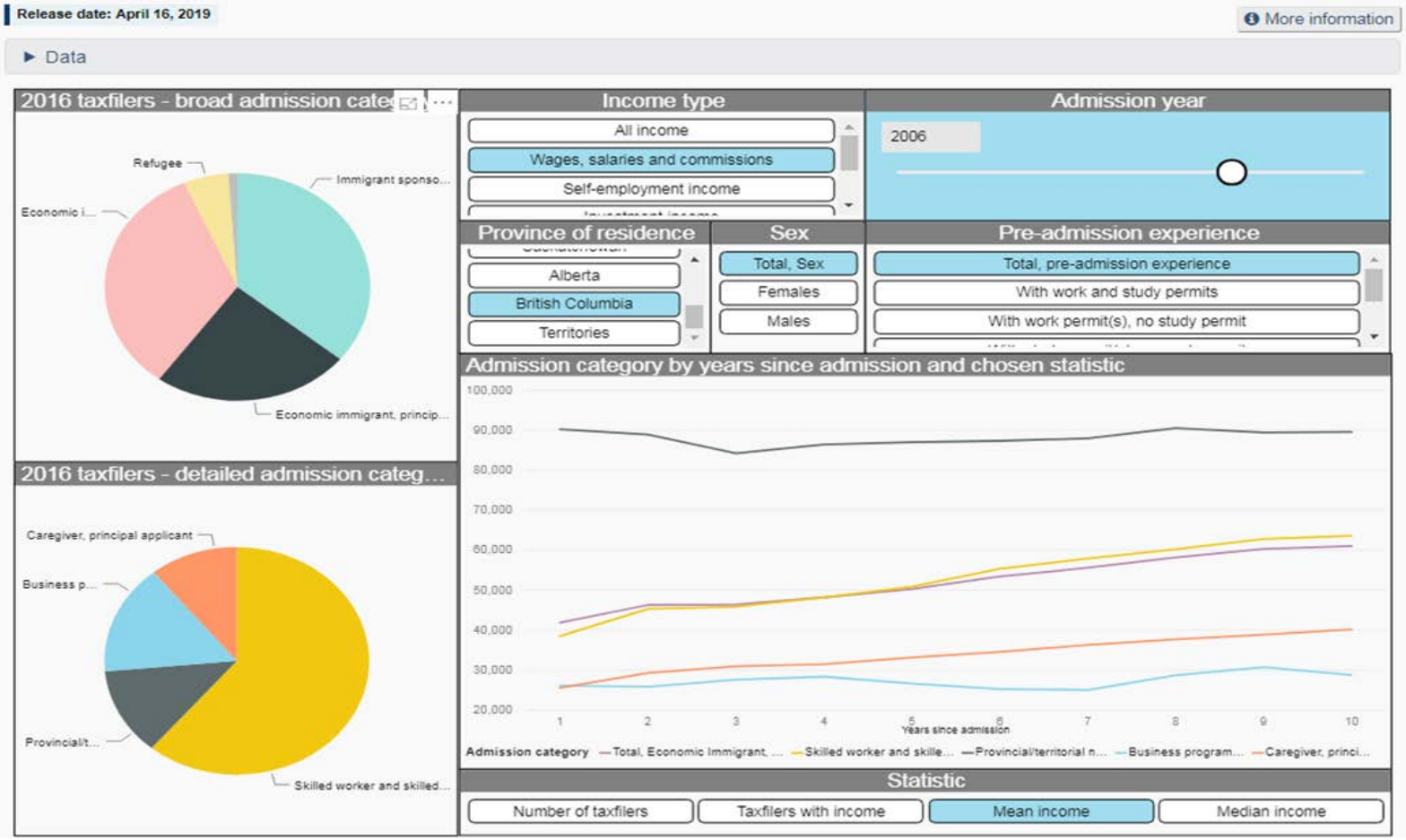
Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Longitudinal Immigration Database, product 43-10-0010

Event history analysis…



Source: Statistics Canada, 2015 Longitudinal Immigration Database

Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB): Interactive app



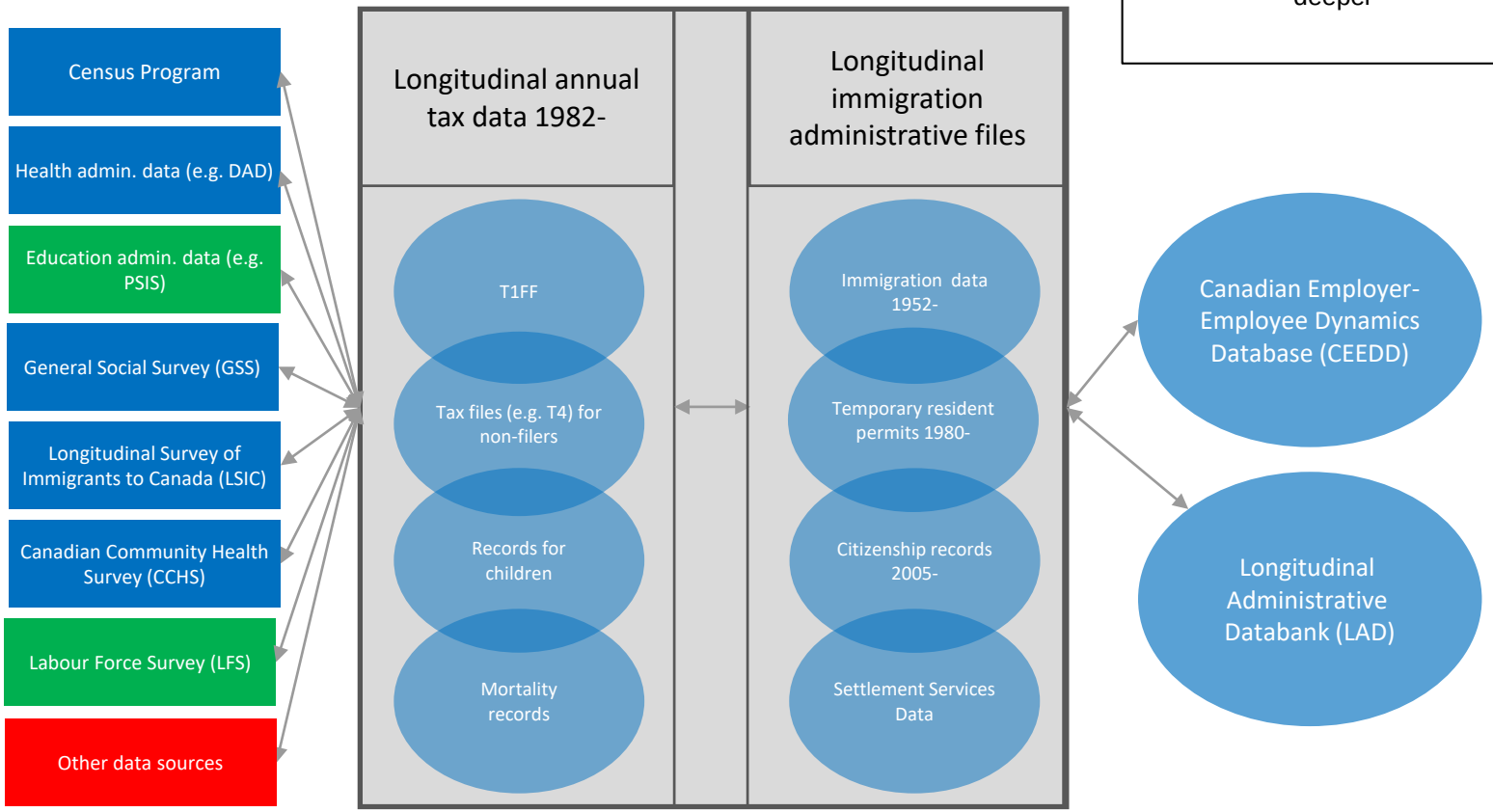
English: https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2019003-eng.htm
French: https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2019003-fra.htm

Moving forward - Longitudinal Immigration Statistical Environment

Connections to other programs

Enhanced IMDB with broader coverage and additional immigration files

Connected to the LAD and CEEDD to compare against non-immigrant populations and to dig deeper



IRCC-Statistics Canada collaboration

- IRCC and Statistics Canada's collaboration led to various **enhancements** and **linkages** between the IMDB and other data sources (e.g. Census, GSS).

- In addition, the consortium of partners (IRCC and the provinces) funded the access of these **datasets in the RDCs** for a broader access to the research community.
  - This collaboration aims to facilitate access and research to immigration, settlement and citizenship information

- If you wish to contact IRCC regarding your research, please e-mail: IRCC.REKMPPartnerships-PartenariatsMCPDGRE.IRCC@cic.gc.ca

For more information, please visit
www.statcan.gc.ca

or contact:
SASD Client Services / DSSEA Service à clientèle (STATCAN) statcan.sasdclientservices-dsseaserviceaclientele.statcan@canada.ca

THANK YOU!

#StatCan100

Recent analytical and technical reports related to IMDB

Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) Technical Report, 2016

- Description of IMDB, its components, and data quality
- Provide guidance/examples of best practices

Analytical Studies Branch Research Paper Series

- Labour Market Outcomes Among Refugees to Canada
- Economic Immigrants in Gateways Cities: Factors involved in their initial location and onward migration decision
- Intergenerational Education Mobility and Labour Market Outcomes: Among the Second Generation of Immigrants in Canada

Health Reports

- Healthy Immigrant Effect by Immigrant Category in Canada
- Tuberculosis-related Hospital Use Among Recent Immigrants to Canada
- Hospitalisation Rates Among Economic Immigrants to Canada

Insights on Canadian Society

- Results from the 2016 Census: Syrian Refugees who Resettled in Canada in 2015 and 2016

Ethnicity, Language and Immigration Thematic Series

- Refugees and Canadian Post-Secondary Education: Characteristics and Economic Outcomes in Comparison