



Citizenship and  
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et  
Immigration Canada

# A profile of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada

Monica van Huystee

April 2011



Canada

The views and opinions expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Citizenship and Immigration Canada or the Government of Canada.

Ci4-76/2012E-PDF  
978-1-100-19982-5

## Table of contents

Executive summary .....	iv
Introduction and overview.....	1
Immigration .....	2
Data .....	3
Overview of foreign students .....	5
Transitions from foreign student to permanent resident.....	6
Retention of international students: When do foreign students transition to permanent resident status? .....	7
Direct transition rates.....	8
Interprovincial transition of foreign students to permanent residents .....	9
Characteristics of foreign students transitioning to permanent residents in Atlantic Canada .....	11
<i>Gender</i> .....	11
<i>Age</i> .....	11
<i>Country of origin</i> .....	12
<i>Level of education</i> .....	13
<i>Family status</i> .....	15
<i>Occupational skill</i> .....	17
Immigration category of foreign student transitions by family status and immigrant class .....	18
Provincial Nominee Program and Skilled Worker Program.....	20
Transition to other temporary resident statuses .....	21
Other considerations.....	22
Conclusion .....	24
Discussion .....	24
Appendix A .....	26

## List of tables

Table 1:	Canada — New permanent residents by province or territory, 1999-2009.....	3
Table 2:	Canada — Foreign students present on December 1 <sup>st</sup> by province or territory, 1999-2009.....	5
Table 3:	Atlantic Canada — Transition from temporary resident to permanent status, 1999-2009.....	7
Table 4:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident as a proportion of total foreign students in previous year 1999-2009 .....	9
Table 5:	Flow of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status from rest of Canada (RoC) to Atlantic Canada.....	9
Table 6:	Atlantic Canada — Transition from foreign student to permanent resident taking into account previous province of residence, 1999-2009.....	10
Table 7:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent residents, by gender 1999-2009 .....	11
Table 8:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by age group, 1999-2009 .....	12
Table 9:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign Students transitioning to permanent resident status by top source countries*, 1999-2009 .....	13
Table 10:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study at transition and province, 1999-2009.....	14
Table 11:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent residents by family status, 1999 to 2009.....	16
Table 12:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study and family status, 1999 to 2009 .....	16
Table 13:	Atlantic Canada — foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by occupational skill level, 1999-2009 .....	18
Table 14:	Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status and immigration class, 1999-2009 .....	19
Table 15:	Atlantic Canada — Landings for Provincial Nominee and Skilled Worker categories, 1999-2009 .....	20
Table 16:	Atlantic Canada — Transitions among temporary resident statuses in Atlantic Canada, 1999-2009.....	21
Table 17:	Atlantic Canada — Transitions to permanent resident status from foreign workers who held post-graduate employment permits, Atlantic Canada and the rest of Canada, 1999-2009.....	22
Table A-1:	Transitions from temporary resident to permanent resident status, rest of Canada 1999-2009 .....	26
Table A-2:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by age group, rest of Canada 1999-2009.....	28
Table A-3:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by country of origin, rest of Canada*.....	28
Table A-4:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by country of origin, Atlantic Canada*.....	29
Table A-5:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study at transition, rest of Canada 1999-2009.....	29
Table A-6:	Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status 1999-2009, rest of Canada .....	29

Table A-7: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status 1999-2009, Atlantic Canada .....	30
Table A-8: Atlantic Canada — Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status and age .....	30

## List of figures

Figure 1: Canada — Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status who were present in the same year as the transition, Atlantic Canada and rest of Canada, 2000-2009.....	8
Figure A-1: Canada — Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident present in Canada as foreign students in transition or previous year, Atlantic Canada and rest of Canada 2000-2009 .....	27
Figure A-2: Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident present in Canada as foreign students in transition year only, Canada and Atlantic Canada 2000-2009 .....	27

## Executive summary

Foreign students are a potential stream of highly skilled immigrants who, due to their investments in education and training in Canada, are able to integrate relatively quickly and easily into the Canadian labour market and society. Drawing from Citizenship and Immigration Canada's *Facts and Figures* this paper presents a profile of the characteristics of foreign students who transitioned to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada between 1999 and 2009. The following is a summary of the main findings of this paper.

Since 1999, a little over 3,500 foreign students have transitioned to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada. With an average transition rate of 3.8% over the past ten years, Atlantic Canada lags slightly behind the rest of Canada's average (5.3%) in attracting foreign students to become permanent residents. Those who do become permanent residents of Atlantic Canada are likely to have studied in Atlantic Canada.

Foreign students who become permanent residents in Atlantic Canada tend to have the following characteristics:

- They are more likely to be male than female.
- Less than half are between the ages of 19 and 31, and forty percent are 18 or younger.
- They are most likely to have come from China, South Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States and India.
- Their level of education at the time of transition to permanent resident status has been declining over time- the proportion with post-secondary education has fallen from about 64% in 1999 to about 44% in 2009.
- The likelihood of foreign students being principal applicants in their application for permanent resident status has also been declining over time with the proportion of spouses and children rising sharply from 38% in 1999 to 69% in 2009.
- Foreign students who are spouses and dependents are likely transitioning as part of a family decision to settle in Canada. The majority are dependents of provincial nominees or skilled workers. Of particular note, the growth in the Provincial Nominee Program has had a significant impact in the number and profile of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada. In 2009 less than 20% of foreign student transitions were selected based on their labour market attributes. This proportion has been declining steadily since 1999 when it was 40%. This is largely because of an increase in the number (and ratio) of spouses and dependants compared to principal applicants in the Provincial Nominee Program (Table 14).

As a result, while the Atlantic provinces may look to foreign students as a solution to declining population and labour market shortages, the labour market impact of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Canada will be less than expected. Their labour market entry will be delayed while this youthful group of students completes their education. Furthermore, should their parents (many of whom are in the Atlantic provinces because of the PNP program) leave the region, the impact on the population and labour market of these departures could be larger than expected as these students accompany their families to their new destination.

## Introduction and overview

This paper has been prepared at the request of the Atlantic Population Table. The Atlantic Population Table (APT) is a multistakeholder initiative of key federal and provincial partners, namely the Atlantic Opportunities Agency (ACOA), the four Atlantic Provinces, HRSDC and CIC, working together in support of regional development, including increased immigration to meet local needs.

There are five streams of the APT initiative: Attraction and Promotion, Awareness, Retention, Research and Labour Market Integration. Under the research stream a comprehensive three year research plan (2007-2010) was developed, based on priorities identified by the APT Research Sub-Committee.

One of the key priority areas to be examined over the three year period was the attraction, promotion and retention of immigrants to Atlantic Canada. The focus of research projects in the first year was to provide a demographic and socioeconomic profile of immigrants in Atlantic Canada in order to better understand the dynamic of population movements as they affect the Atlantic region and identify regional needs and strategies to attract and retain immigrants. Developing a profile of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada was identified as a priority.

In addition to describing the characteristics of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada, the paper also attempts to identify what contributions they could potentially make to the labour force. Where possible, the focus of this paper is at the provincial level, but in some cases, the numbers are small and the geographic region is the entire Atlantic Region. In some cases similarities or differences in trends between Atlantic Canada and the rest of Canada (RoC) are highlighted so as to give context to the situation in Atlantic Canada. The data used for this report cover the period 1999 to 2009 and include the period prior to the announcement of the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) program in November 2008. Thus, these findings could inform future analyses of the impact of the CEC program of foreign students, one group that it was designed to target. The first permanent residents under the CEC program landed in 2009.

Given concerns about low population growth in Atlantic Canada, especially in view of attractive labour market opportunities in Canada's west over the same time period, attraction and retention of immigrants and foreign students is, and has been, an important consideration in maintaining or increasing the region's population. In fact, the various provincial governments have put in place strategies to encourage foreign students to remain in Atlantic Canada. For example,

*In 2007, the province of Nova Scotia added the component of "International Graduate Stream" to its Provincial Nominee Program that fast tracks the landing process for those international students who wish to stay in the province after finishing their studies. ...The province of New Brunswick also signed an agreement with the federal government that makes it easier for foreign graduates in New Brunswick to gain an additional year of work experience in their field of study. This change is expected to help graduates who wish to apply for permanent resident status as skilled workers by providing them with additional points on the selection grid in their area of expertise.<sup>1</sup>*

---

<sup>1</sup> *Socioeconomic Profiles of Immigrants in the Four Atlantic Provinces-Phase II: Focus on Vibrant Communities*, Ather Akbari and Wimal Rankaduwa

The purpose of this profile is to describe foreign students who chose to remain in Atlantic Canada as permanent residents with a view to providing background knowledge for the further development of attraction and retention strategies in Atlantic Canada.

## Immigration

Immigration is an important aspect of population growth in Canada and, as in the rest of Canada, Atlantic Canada looks to immigrants to provide labour market growth and talent. According to Statistics Canada's Reference Scenario Population Projections for the period 2006 to 2031, immigrants accounted for 19.8% of Canada's population in 2006 and will account for 26.5% of Canada's population by 2031<sup>2</sup>. Over the same period, Statistics Canada projects the proportion of immigrants in the population of Atlantic Canada to increase from 4% to 6%. Thus, in Atlantic Canada, immigrants represent a smaller but growing share of the population. These projections are based on past years' trends, which are the focus of this paper, and plausible scenarios regarding the future.

Within the immigrant group, considerable interest is focussing on those who transition from foreign student to permanent resident status. With their Canadian credentials, higher language proficiency, and social networking and work experience in Canada, it is expected that they will integrate quickly into the labour market and society.

Table 1 shows the number of new permanent residents who intended to reside in Canada and Atlantic Canada over the past 10 years. It indicates that a relatively small proportion of Canada's newcomers intended to reside in Atlantic Canada over the period. In 2009, about 2.6% of Canada's new permanent residents intended to settle in Atlantic Canada, a slightly higher proportion than at the beginning of the period (1.4%).

With regard to specific Atlantic provinces, the table shows that over the past ten years, Nova Scotia, Atlantic Canada's most populous province, has attracted the majority of new permanent residents. However, New Brunswick and PEI also experienced noticeable increases in new permanent residents starting in 2005 and 2007 respectively.

---

<sup>2</sup> *Projections of the Diversity of the Canadian Population, 2006 to 2031* by Éric Caron Malenfant, André Lebel and Laurent Martel.



**Table 1: Canada – New permanent residents<sup>3</sup> by province or territory, 1999-2009**

Province	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Newfoundland and Labrador	424	417	392	404	359	579	497	508	546	616	603
Prince Edward Island	135	189	135	108	154	310	330	565	992	1,443	1,723
Nova Scotia	1,595	1,608	1,698	1,419	1,474	1,771	1,929	2,586	2,523	2,651	2,424
New Brunswick	659	758	798	705	666	795	1,091	1,646	1,643	1,856	1,913
<b>Atlantic Canada</b>	<b>2,813</b>	<b>2,972</b>	<b>3,023</b>	<b>2,636</b>	<b>2,653</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>3,847</b>	<b>5,305</b>	<b>5,704</b>	<b>6,566</b>	<b>6,663</b>
Quebec	29,149	32,498	37,598	37,581	39,555	44,245	43,315	44,684	45,201	45,220	49,493
Ontario	104,167	133,510	148,641	133,588	119,722	125,094	140,525	125,892	111,315	110,878	106,867
Manitoba	3,725	4,635	4,591	4,615	6,503	7,426	8,096	10,047	10,954	11,218	13,520
Saskatchewan	1,728	1,882	1,704	1,667	1,668	1,943	2,119	2,724	3,516	4,835	6,890
Alberta	12,095	14,363	16,405	14,783	15,839	16,475	19,404	20,716	20,861	24,199	27,017
British Columbia	36,122	37,428	38,482	34,057	35,229	37,028	44,770	42,083	38,961	43,992	41,438
Yukon Territory	76	59	65	50	59	62	65	65	83	110	174
Northwest Territories	58	83	95	60	94	89	84	98	88	127	107
Nunavut	14	13	13	12	11	8	12	12	19	50	10
Province not stated	5	12	23		15		4	16	52	52	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>189,952</b>	<b>227,455</b>	<b>250,640</b>	<b>229,049</b>	<b>221,348</b>	<b>235,825</b>	<b>262,241</b>	<b>251,642</b>	<b>236,754</b>	<b>247,247</b>	<b>252,179</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

## Data

This paper relies on data available in Citizenship and Immigration Canada’s Research Data Mart. The Research and Evaluation Branch converts data from Citizenship and Immigration’s administrative systems to analytical data that can be used for research purposes. The analysis uses *Facts and Figures 2009* data.

The administrative data on which the RDM is based are collected at the time of entry to Canada and updated at every change in status. The data describe the purpose of entry to Canada and basic information about the entrant such as sex, age, country of origin, and level of study for persons entering with a study permit. The data also include details about changes in that status, for example from foreign student status or foreign worker status to permanent resident status, whether they are the principal applicant or the spouse or dependent of the principal applicant and in which province the applicant intends to reside.

The data selected for this profile describe permanent residents who intended to reside in Atlantic Canada and whose previous yearly status<sup>4</sup> in Canada was foreign student whether in the Atlantic Region or elsewhere in Canada. Therefore, people who transition to permanent resident status whose last yearly status was foreign worker and who may at some point in the past have been foreign students are not included<sup>5</sup>. Furthermore, those who were granted permanent resident status elsewhere in Canada after studying in Atlantic Canada are also not included although Table 5 gives an indication of to what extent foreign students who studied in Atlantic

<sup>3</sup> New permanent residents are defined as people who become permanent residents of Canada in a particular year (as opposed to permanent residents who remain permanent residents in every subsequent year).

<sup>4</sup> For statistical purposes “yearly status” refers to the categorizing of temporary residents as foreign workers, foreign students, the humanitarian population, or other temporary residents according to the main reason they have been authorized to enter and stay temporarily in Canada each year. These four categories are mutually exclusive-any person included in one category is excluded from the others.

<sup>5</sup> Unfortunately, the current database allows capture of only the last prior yearly status and does not allow an analysis of all prior yearly statuses.

Canada have transitioned to permanent resident status in provinces outside Atlantic Canada over the past ten years.

Finally, the unit of analysis for this profile is the individual. Individuals subject to the same application for permanent residence in Atlantic Canada are not necessarily included in the analysis as the last yearly status of each individual may differ from one to another. For example, a person landed as an accompanying dependant through the Provincial Nominee Program is included in the population of interest for this study if this person's last yearly status is foreign student, but the principal applicant is not included if his (her) previous status was foreign worker.

This being said, the "Other Considerations" section of this paper will attempt to capture the volume and some key characteristics of foreign workers who transitioned to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada after holding post-graduate permits and therefore who must have been foreign students in the preceding year(s).

## Overview of foreign students

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2009, there were more than 196,100 foreign students residing in Canada; ten years earlier, there were about 97,300<sup>6</sup>, an increase of 102% but the growth was uneven with year over year changes varying from almost 20% in 2000-2001 to only 1.2% in 2007-08 (see Table 2)<sup>7</sup>. In 2009, the number of foreign students in Canada rose by more than 10% over the previous year. The majority of foreign students studied in Ontario, BC and Quebec and these three provinces hosted more than 80% of all foreign students in Canada in 2009.

Although smaller compared to the rest of Canada (RoC), the number of foreign students in Atlantic Canada has been growing over the years. In 2009 there were more than 12,000 foreign students studying in Atlantic Canada (about 6% of Canada's total), with Nova Scotia having the largest share (55%). Over a ten year period, the number of foreign students in Atlantic Canada increased by more than 140% from a relatively small base in 1999. Growth was most rapid between 1999 and 2003. Within Atlantic Canada, each of the provinces maintained roughly the same share of total foreign students over the ten year period although New Brunswick and PEI had slightly larger growth rates —143% and 225% respectively. However, it must be noted that PEI began with a relatively smaller base (growing from 200 to 651 per year over the period).

**Table 2: Canada – Foreign students present on December 1<sup>st</sup> by province or territory, 1999-2009**

Province	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Newfoundland and Labrador	666	656	679	768	899	914	1,049	1,202	1,377	1,516	1,524
Prince Edward Island	200	228	272	266	289	309	344	404	476	517	651
Nova Scotia	2,747	3,087	3,721	4,444	5,131	5,461	5,457	5,471	5,437	5,797	6,613
New Brunswick	1,350	1,764	2,265	2,751	3,044	3,191	3,240	3,181	3,228	3,258	3,284
<b>Atlantic Canada</b>	<b>4,963</b>	<b>5,735</b>	<b>6,937</b>	<b>8,229</b>	<b>9,363</b>	<b>9,875</b>	<b>10,090</b>	<b>10,258</b>	<b>10,518</b>	<b>11,088</b>	<b>12,072</b>
Quebec	19,553	21,830	24,099	24,527	25,075	25,450	25,195	25,872	27,028	27,959	30,593
Ontario	32,940	40,127	49,165	56,207	60,235	62,228	62,795	63,782	65,452	65,743	72,994
Manitoba	2,357	2,694	3,125	3,629	4,202	4,759	4,971	5,143	5,254	4,866	5,383
Saskatchewan	2,496	2,625	3,031	3,298	3,522	3,627	3,735	3,491	3,524	3,649	3,967
Alberta	8,314	9,350	10,659	11,190	11,756	12,016	12,424	12,948	13,834	14,385	15,580
British Columbia	26,601	31,595	39,595	43,294	45,361	46,689	47,763	48,456	50,174	50,187	55,479
Yukon Territory	34	42	25	42	28	32	34	27	38	42	37
Northwest Territories	42	44	23	30	52	55	69	54	54	42	31
Nunavut			4	9	8	10	8	4	1	1	1
Province not stated	6	4	1						7	1	1
<b>Canada</b>	<b>97,306</b>	<b>114,046</b>	<b>136,664</b>	<b>150,455</b>	<b>159,602</b>	<b>164,741</b>	<b>167,084</b>	<b>170,035</b>	<b>175,884</b>	<b>177,963</b>	<b>196,138</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

<sup>6</sup> This is consistent with OECD figures indicating that on average across OECD countries the number of international students doubled between 2000 and 2007. *International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2010*

<sup>7</sup> Foreign students in programs of less than six months are not required to have a foreign student study permit and hence are not captured by the data. Moreover, during the period of analysis, the number of months foreign students could study in Canada without a study permit changed from three months to six months, so earlier periods were over counted in comparison to later years.

## Transitions from foreign student to permanent resident

Foreign students are part of the temporary resident program; this program also includes foreign workers, the humanitarian population and “other” temporary residents<sup>8</sup>. For new permanent residents (those “landed” that year)<sup>9</sup> it is possible to verify whether they had ever been present temporarily in Canada before (their previous yearly status). If the new permanent residents were previously present temporarily in Canada this is defined as a transition: they are transitioning from their previous yearly (temporary) status to permanent resident status. Some people transition directly from one status to another while others may have a period of absence: they may leave Canada for a period before returning as a permanent resident.

Over the past ten years, the number of new permanent residents in Atlantic Canada who were previously temporary residents has more than doubled from 809 to 2001 (see Table 3). Over the same period, in the rest of Canada, permanent residents who had previously had temporary resident status increased from 40,000 to 67,800 (see Table A-1).

Generally, over the past ten years, within the various temporary statuses, the transition to permanent resident is greatest from foreign workers (and humanitarian) and in this regard, the Atlantic provinces with flows of foreign workers ranging from 25% to 47% of transitions to permanent resident status (depending on the year) are consistent with the trend in the rest of Canada. In Atlantic Canada, flows from “other” and from foreign students are roughly second in importance in terms of flows to permanent resident status. However, in the rest of Canada, other immigrant streams are more important proportionally than foreign students. In Quebec and Ontario, flows from the humanitarian population are particularly high (see Table A-1), so that the flow from foreign students and “other” is less important in these provinces even though they attract a higher volume than the Atlantic provinces.

In 2009, the proportion of foreign worker transitions in Atlantic Canada peaked at 47% of all transitions from temporary to permanent status. This was also a peak year in the rest of Canada. In the West<sup>10</sup> (except in British Columbia where it is 52%), flows from foreign workers rose to above 60% of the number of transitions from temporary to permanent status (again, see Table A-1).

In 2009 in the rest of Canada, foreign students represented only 13% of those making the transition from temporary status to permanent and “other” made up 21%. Transitions from the humanitarian population accounted for 22%. In Atlantic Canada, foreign student transitions to permanent status made up 23% of all transitions. Thus, they were more important for Atlantic Canada as a whole than for the rest of Canada.

---

<sup>8</sup> “Other” temporary residents include persons with a temporary resident permit or a visitor record issued for the purpose of entering Canada. These temporary residents do not hold a work permit, a study permit, a permit processed under special programs established to handle refugee-like cases nor have they ever filed a refugee claim.

<sup>9</sup> Temporary residents can also transition to other temporary resident status for example from foreign students to foreign workers (or vice versa). The numbers of foreign students applying for other temporary status is included in Table 16. In general, foreign students have been more likely to transition to other temporary status than permanent resident status, but with the implementation of the Canadian Experience Class (CEC) program this may change.

<sup>10</sup> West is here defined as Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

**Table 3: Atlantic Canada – Transition from temporary resident to permanent status, 1999-2009**

<b>Transition</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>From Foreign workers</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>939</b>
<i>To Newfoundland and Labrador</i>	47	42	33	41	34	69	57	75	75	133	151
<i>To Prince Edward Island</i>	14	19	17	8	8	24	37	37	43	76	82
<i>To Nova Scotia</i>	115	101	155	97	93	176	150	281	309	448	380
<i>To New Brunswick</i>	74	67	102	91	80	103	119	265	261	288	326
<b>From Foreign students</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
<i>To Newfoundland and Labrador</i>	72	61	33	43	39	37	44	47	64	82	59
<i>To Prince Edward Island</i>	2	8		9	5	34	39	55	69	113	97
<i>To Nova Scotia</i>	87	82	86	99	77	102	139	193	158	178	155
<i>To New Brunswick</i>	63	48	52	43	61	56	127	207	153	212	157
<b>From Humanitarian</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>94</b>
<i>To Newfoundland and Labrador</i>	17	37	29	16	28	20	24	20	20	17	6
<i>To Prince Edward Island</i>	1	47	13	2	2	1	4	2	3	9	7
<i>To Nova Scotia</i>	68	116	87	69	69	45	65	74	73	54	60
<i>To New Brunswick</i>	28	120	37	12	29	31	26	25	31	30	21
<b>From Other</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>500</b>
<i>To Newfoundland and Labrador</i>	43	57	43	45	48	64	48	56	54	76	69
<i>To Prince Edward Island</i>	9	8	10	12	20	31	27	35	45	64	41
<i>To Nova Scotia</i>	109	100	111	119	175	224	185	263	215	248	199
<i>To New Brunswick</i>	60	53	69	72	85	123	126	203	152	184	191
<b>Temporary to permanent resident transitions</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>1,838</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>2,212</b>	<b>2,001</b>

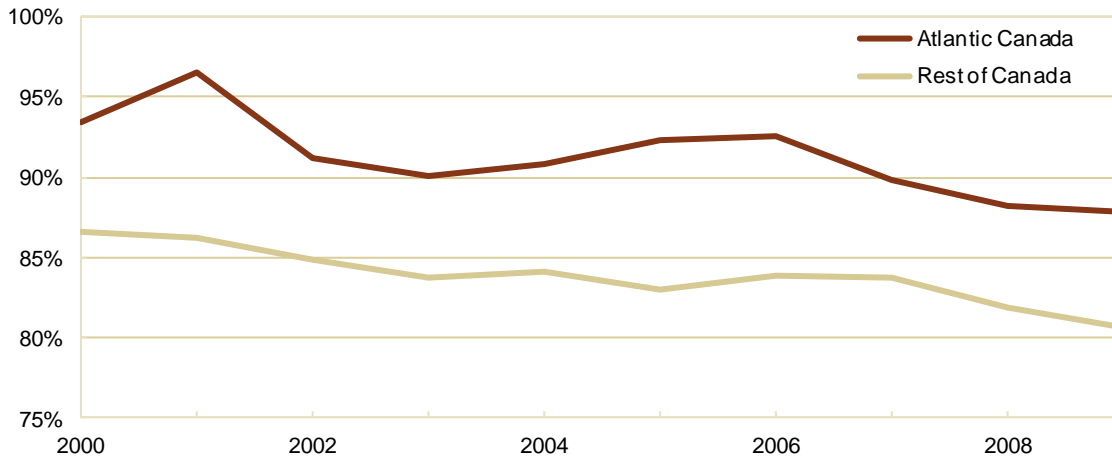
Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

In 2009, there were 8,778 new permanent residents in Canada who previously had foreign student status. In Atlantic Canada, there were 468 new permanent residents that had previously held foreign students status. The Atlantic share represents a little over 5% of all foreign student to permanent resident transitions in Canada. Since only 2.6% of all new permanent residents in Canada cite Atlantic Canada as their destination, this is another indicator of the relative importance of foreign students transitions to Atlantic Canada compared to the rest of Canada .

### **Retention of international students: When do foreign students transition to permanent resident status?**

Figure 1 indicates the proportion of foreign students who were present in Canada in the same year as they made the transition to permanent resident status. Over the last ten years, the proportion in Atlantic Canada and the rest of Canada has been falling, although it remains above eighty percent and is higher in Atlantic Canada: in 2009 it was about 88%. If we calculate how many were present in either the year of transition or the previous year, the proportion is even higher (See Figure A-1). Those becoming permanent residents who have not transitioned to foreign workers or to some other temporary status are most likely to make the transition to permanent resident status in the year or two immediately after their status as foreign student.

**Figure 1: Canada – Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status who were present in the same year as the transition, Atlantic Canada and rest of Canada, 2000-2009**



Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

### Direct transition rates

In this analysis, only international students who obtained permanent resident status immediately are considered to have made the transition from foreign student to permanent resident status. As discussed earlier, it is possible for foreign students to transition to other temporary statuses, especially foreign worker status and to subsequently apply for permanent resident status (see Table 16 for an indication of how many transfer between temporary resident statuses), so this indicator of retention should be considered a conservative estimate. The current data allow us to track only the temporary status immediately prior to the transition to permanent resident status and the province they intend to reside in. Thus, foreign students who transition to temporary foreign workers before deciding to become permanent residents are not included since their last yearly status would be recorded as “foreign worker”.

In order to calculate a transition rate, we divide foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in a given year by the number of foreign students present on December 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year (same academic year and most recent year for which we have data on foreign students). The assumption is that most students transition directly from their studies and status as foreign students to permanent resident status without a prolonged period of absence. It is possible that students return to their countries of origin for a few years before applying but Figure 1 indicated that the vast majority of foreign student transitions are foreign students and present in Canada in the same year (or two) prior to becoming permanent residents. The calculation above uses the stock of foreign students present at December 1<sup>st</sup> of the previous year because by the end of any given year, most students transitioning will have done so by the end of the year and hence would no longer be identified as students in the database on December 1<sup>st</sup><sup>11</sup>.

In any one year in Atlantic Canada, the number of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status as a proportion of total number of foreign students studying in Atlantic Canada is

<sup>11</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> is the date selected by CIC for its annual calculation of the stock of foreign students in Canada. It was selected because most foreign students studying in Canada will be present on that date. The stock of foreign students on December 1<sup>st</sup> is a good proxy of the total pool of foreign (international) students present in Canada.

fairly low. This is also true for the country as a whole over the past ten years (Table 4). In Atlantic Canada this proportion rarely rises above 5% of the foreign student population; it is marginally higher in the rest of Canada. In 2009, the transition rate was just over 4% in Atlantic Canada and just over 5% in the rest of Canada.

**Table 4: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident as a proportion of total foreign students in previous year 1999-2009**

Location	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Mean
Atlantic Canada	5.2%	4.0%	3.0%	2.8%	2.2%	2.4%	3.5%	5.0%	4.3%	5.6%	4.2%	3.8%
RoC	6.3%	5.7%	5.4%	4.2%	3.8%	4.7%	4.9%	6.1%	6.2%	6.2%	5.3%	5.3%

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

The next section considers whether foreign students who studied in Atlantic Canada are likely to become permanent residents in the rest of Canada or whether those who studied in the rest of Canada are likely to become permanent residents in Atlantic Canada.

### Interprovincial transition of foreign students to permanent residents

A number of foreign students who studied in one province sometimes move to another province while changing their status to permanent resident and this is indicated on their applications for permanent residency. For example, students who have studied in Ontario may indicate their intention to move to Alberta when transitioning to permanent resident status. Table 5 presents the overall flow of foreign students who studied in Atlantic Canada but intended to become permanent residents outside Atlantic Canada and those who studied in provinces other than Atlantic Canada and intended to move to Atlantic Canada at the time of transition for the years 1999 to 2009. As Table 5 indicates, in the past this trend has been a small outflow of foreign students from Atlantic Canada transitioning to permanent resident status in the rest of Canada but over the last two years, the trend seems to have reversed leaving Atlantic Canada with a small inflow of permanent residents from transitions of foreign students coming from provinces outside Atlantic Canada. Table 5 indicates that the volume in both directions increased over the last four years. After becoming permanent residents in one province these former foreign students could subsequently move to another province or return to the province in which they have studied and developed connections. Their subsequent internal mobility is beyond the scope of this analysis.

**Table 5: Flow of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status from rest of Canada (RoC) to Atlantic Canada**

Location	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<i>From Atlantic to RoC</i>	46	47	57	42	51	64	86	102	117	111	93
<i>From RoC to Atlantic</i>	18	14	7	10	21	41	58	121	85	112	121
<b>Inflow to Atlantic Canada</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>-33</b>	<b>-50</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

In general, the Atlantic Provinces generate most of their own “foreign student to permanent resident” transitions. More than three quarters come from within the same province, except for PEI (see Table 6). While there is a little mobility among the Atlantic Provinces, the majority of any other inter-provincial transfer over this period was foreign students intending to go to Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia from the Atlantic Provinces and the flow of students who indicated their intention to move in the opposite direction.

**Table 6: Atlantic Canada – Transition from foreign student to permanent resident taking into account previous province of residence, 1999-2009**

Transition	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Newfoundland and Labrador	68	56	31	42	35	34	32	42	62	72	54
% from Newfoundland and Labrador	94%	92%	94%	98%	90%	92%	73%	89%	97%	88%	92%
From all other provinces*	4	5	2	1	4	3	12	5	2	10	5
<b>To Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59</b>
Prince Edward Island	2	7	0	7	2	16	13	21	34	54	33
% from PEI	100%	88%	0%	78%	40%	47%	33%	38%	49%	48%	34%
From all other provinces*	0	1	0	2	3	18	26	34	35	59	64
<b>To Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>97</b>
Nova Scotia	80	71	81	91	64	84	126	151	131	165	124
% from NS	92%	87%	94%	92%	83%	82%	91%	78%	83%	93%	80%
From Ontario	2	4	1	1	7	4	4	17	7	5	14
From British Columbia	0	1	0	1	3	7	3	14	10	4	7
From all other provinces*	5	6	4	6	3	7	6	11	10	4	10
<b>To Nova Scotia</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>155</b>
New Brunswick	54	45	51	36	55	49	114	156	123	170	125
% from NB	86%	94%	98%	84%	90%	88%	90%	75%	80%	80%	80%
From Quebec	1	1	0	2	3	2	8	17	13	19	12
From Ontario	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	24	4	16	15
From all other provinces*	7	2	1	5	1	4	2	10	13	7	5
<b>To New Brunswick</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Previous Province is Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
<b>% within Atlantic</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>74%</b>

\*Is not the same in each circumstance

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

For example, while 35 foreign students from the Atlantic Provinces intended to become permanent residents of Ontario in 2009, 51 foreign students from Ontario intended to become permanent residents in the Atlantic Provinces in the same year. While the proportion generated from within each province seems to vary from year to year, most of the variation can be attributed to relatively small numbers.

Having described the number of foreign students in the Atlantic Provinces, the proportion who become permanent residents and the flows between the provinces, the next section examines the characteristics of those who make the transition from foreign student to permanent resident.



## Characteristics of foreign students transitioning to permanent residents in Atlantic Canada

### Gender

New permanent residents in Atlantic Canada whose prior status in Canada was foreign student are more likely to be male (see Table 7). Over the years, the proportion of male foreign students transitioning to permanent resident in Atlantic Canada remained within a range of 54 to 63% with an average of about 58%. However, some provinces with relatively small numbers of transitions saw proportions outside this range.

**Table 7: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent residents, by gender 1999-2009**

Gender	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Male	47	35	18	26	21	17	26	27	34	45	41
Female	25	26	15	17	18	20	18	20	30	37	18
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59</b>
Male	1	4		3	3	19	21	24	33	69	55
Female	1	4		6	2	15	18	31	36	44	42
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>97</b>
Male	57	44	42	69	52	70	89	111	94	100	79
Female	30	38	44	30	25	32	50	82	64	78	76
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>155</b>
Male	44	27	33	24	39	31	70	125	98	130	94
Female	19	21	19	19	22	25	57	82	55	82	63
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Atlantic foreign student transitions</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
	<b>Atlantic provinces proportion</b>										
<b>Female</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>57%</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

### Age

Data about age is collected when there is a change in status. For this analysis, the data has been grouped into three categories: those younger than post-secondary education age (typically under 18), those of “prime” age to be in post-secondary education (19 -31) and those generally considered older than typical post-secondary students (32 and over).

Given the common perception of foreign students as those enrolled in post-secondary education, it is surprising that 48% of the foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada in 2009 are between the ages of 19 and 31(see Table 8). This compares to about 60% in this age group in the rest of Canada (see Table A-2).

In 2009, about 38% of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada were under 18. This suggests that they are high school and elementary students and not post-secondary students. This is about 10 percentage points higher than the 27% for the rest of Canada in 2009 (see Table A-2). It is interesting to note that starting in 2005, the number (and proportion) of foreign students transitioning in the youngest age group in Atlantic Canada rose rapidly and has remained high since then.

About 14% of new permanent residents in Atlantic Canada who had a previous yearly status of foreign student were over the age of 32 when they transitioned in 2009, about the same as in the rest of Canada.

**Table 8: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by age group, 1999-2009**

Age Group	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
18 and Under	69	68	62	79	60	62	143	217	185	239	180
19-31	105	98	81	91	102	120	163	227	192	280	224
32 and Over	50	33	28	24	20	47	43	58	67	66	64
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
<i>Atlantic Proportion</i>											
18 and Under	31%	34%	36%	41%	33%	27%	41%	43%	42%	41%	38%
19-31	47%	49%	47%	47%	56%	52%	47%	45%	43%	48%	48%
32 and Over	22%	17%	16%	12%	11%	21%	12%	12%	15%	11%	14%

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

### Country of origin

In 2009, the top countries of origin for new permanent residents of Canada whose previous yearly status was foreign student were China, South Korea, India, France, the United Kingdom and the United States<sup>12</sup>. In Atlantic Canada foreign student transitions from China are well represented in every province, but beyond that there are differences depending on the province (see Table 9). In general, at this level of detail the numbers are very small and hence variability is high. However, for Atlantic Canada as a whole South Korea, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States were the top sources of transitioning foreign students in 2009. This has also been true for most of the period (see Table A-4).

<sup>12</sup> These are the countries of last permanent residence from which more than 400 foreign students transitioned to permanent resident status in Canada in 2009. For a more complete listing of countries of last permanent residence see Table A-3.

**Table 9: Atlantic Canada – Foreign Students transitioning to permanent resident status by top source countries\*, 1999-2009**

Country of Residence	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
China	20	14	6	8	7	9	6	7	8	18	10
Bangladesh	2	5	1		2	1	1	6	6	14	8
India	11	4	2	5	4	7		2	8	6	6
All Others	39	38	24	30	26	20	37	32	42	44	35
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59</b>
China						4	2	4	6	28	40
South Korea				1		15	25	37	37	42	26
Taiwan						2	4	5	11	22	13
All Others	2	8	0	8	5	13	8	9	15	21	18
<b>PEI</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>97</b>
China	24	18	13	22	13	19	26	33	18	21	29
United Kingdom	3		3	8	1	5	3	9	15	15	18
United States	11	8	10	6	9	9	10	16	10	16	18
Germany	2	3	4	3	2	1	4		5	9	15
South Korea	1	6	3	6	7	7	21	28	13	12	8
All Others	46	47	53	54	45	61	75	107	97	105	67
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>155</b>
South Korea	2	1			2	2	51	119	70	112	69
China	17	12	6	4	11	10	18	28	17	38	20
France				2	1	2	3			4	5
All Others	44	35	46	37	47	42	55	60	66	58	63
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

\*Only those with more than 5 landings in 2009 are included.

### Level of education

In general, the level of education at the time of transition from foreign student to permanent resident status has been declining over the past ten years in Atlantic Canada. Table 10 shows this trend. At the beginning of the ten year period roughly 64% of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status had post-secondary education (defined as university or other post secondary), by 2009 this had fallen to about 44%, with the biggest drop occurring in 2005. It is interesting to note that the preceding table shows this same year as the year of a sizeable increase in the number of foreign student transitions aged 18 years or younger.

**Table 10: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study at transition and province, 1999-2009**

<b>Transition level of study</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Secondary or less	27	26	18	24	11	12	22	10	21	14	12
Trade				1					1		1
University	41	29	15	16	23	23	18	31	33	61	41
Other post-secondary	3	4		1	4	1	4	5	8	5	4
Level of study not stated	1	2		1	1	1		1	1	2	1
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59</b>
Secondary or less	1	6		4	2	20	31	43	53	85	69
Trade						1	1		2	2	1
University		2		4	2	7	5	8	6	10	5
Other post-secondary				1	1	5	1	1	6	11	12
Level of study not stated	1					1	1	3	2	5	10
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>97</b>
Secondary or less	26	22	35	32	22	34	47	75	68	57	64
Trade		1				1	4	3	2	4	1
University	53	50	41	53	40	53	72	87	73	89	66
Other post-secondary	6	8	6	12	14	11	12	19	10	25	15
Level of study not stated	2	1	4	2	1	3	4	9	5	3	9
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>155</b>
Secondary or less	21	18	17	27	30	11	69	128	76	127	85
Trade						2	4	3	1	2	1
University	33	24	26	10	12	36	34	46	61	51	52
Other post-secondary	7	4	7	5	16	6	10	24	8	18	12
Level of study not stated	2	2	2	1	3	1	10	6	7	14	7
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
<b>Atlantic secondary or less %</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>49%</b>
<b>Atlantic % PSE</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>44%</b>
<b>RoC</b>	<b>5,165</b>	<b>5,238</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,442</b>	<b>5,468</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>9,871</b>	<b>10,179</b>	<b>8,778</b>
<b>RoC secondary or less %</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>RoC PSE %</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>53%</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

In contrast, the level of education across Canada for foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status has increased slightly over the period, with 50% having post secondary education in 1999 to 53% in 2009, with much higher rates (for example 61% in 2006 and 2007) in some years (see Table A-5 and also the last line of Table 10). Thus, in 2009, the proportion of foreign students that transition with post-secondary education in Atlantic Canada was almost 10 percentage points less than in the rest of Canada. This wide divergence started in 2005 and has continued.

It is interesting to note the considerable variation by province with regard to the level of education of transitioning foreign students in Atlantic Canada: in 2009, students with post secondary education (PSE) make up more than 75% of transition to permanent resident status in Newfoundland and Labrador, 52% in Nova Scotia, 40% in New Brunswick, but only 17% in PEI. In New Brunswick and PEI foreign students with high school or less comprise a large proportion, if not the bulk of transitions. The change in the importance of this group is most marked in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in 2005 and PEI in 2008.

## Family status

One might expect foreign students who are transitioning to permanent resident status to be young people who having completed their post-secondary education in Canada, wish to take advantage of labour market opportunities available to them as a result of their studies in Canada and the network they developed while studying. Therefore, one might expect their family status to be “principal applicant”. However, a large proportion of those making the transition from foreign student status to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada are not “principal applicants” (PAs) but are the accompanying spouse or dependant of a PA<sup>13</sup>. Across the rest of Canada the proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status who were either spouses or dependants was between 37% and 48% over the period 1999 to 2009, with an average of 42%; in 2009 the proportion was 46% (see Table A-6).

In contrast to the rest of Canada, in Atlantic Canada over the same period, the proportion of foreign students who were spouses or dependents and transitioned to permanent resident status rose continuously from 38% to 69% in 2009 (see Table 11). This trend towards a higher proportion of foreign students making the transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada being spouses or dependents rose markedly after 2004. The proportions are particularly high in PEI and New Brunswick. In the latter, the number of spouses and dependants almost quadrupled from 2004 to 2005 (from 19 to 80). In Nova Scotia it doubled in the period between 2004 and 2006. Since then the number of spouses and dependents has remained high. Among the Atlantic provinces it was highest in PEI (97%) and lowest in Newfoundland (37%) in 2009.

This suggests that the decision to remain in Canada is not directly labour market related for many foreign students. Instead, many are “tied movers”. They are part of a family-based migration decision rather than independent migrants<sup>14</sup>. This is particularly true for foreign students transitioning in PEI and New Brunswick. The earlier analysis on age and level of education showed that a large proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status is young and their education not yet complete; thus, their labour market readiness may still be relatively undeveloped.

---

<sup>13</sup> Principal applicants (or PAs) self -identify on their permanent resident visa applications for themselves and for their spouses and/or dependents when they apply to immigrate to Canada. Only the principal applicant is assessed on the basis of selected criteria at the time of the application.

<sup>14</sup> The OECD notes the difficulties of distinguishing between students who migrate with their parents before taking up studies and those who migrate for the purpose of taking up studies in its *International Migration Outlook: SOPEMI 2010*.

**Table 11: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent residents by family status, 1999 to 2009**

Family Status	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Principal Applicants	41	31	11	18	21	18	18	25	34	49	37
Spouse or Dependants	31	30	22	25	18	19	26	22	30	33	22
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>59</b>
Principal Applicants	2	2		5	3	8	4	6	10	10	3
Spouse or Dependants		6		4	2	26	35	49	59	103	94
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>97</b>
Principal Applicants	55	49	48	55	48	63	74	90	73	98	62
Spouse or Dependants	32	33	38	44	29	39	65	103	85	80	93
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>155</b>
Principal Applicants	41	29	35	14	23	37	47	58	64	63	44
Spouse or Dependants	22	19	17	29	38	19	80	149	89	149	113
<b>New Brunswick</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Atlantic Foreign Student Transitions</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
<b>% Spouse or Dependents</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>69%</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

If we look at family status and level of education together we gain more insight into these dependents. Table 12 indicates that almost all of the 49% of foreign students who have levels of education at transition that are high school or less in Atlantic Canada (see Table 10), are dependents (224 out of 230 foreign students transitioning with high school or less or 97%). In the rest of Canada the proportion with high school or less was about 35% in 2009 (see Table A-5).

**Table 12: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study and family status, 1999 to 2009**

Transition Level Of Study	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Secondary or less	3	3	7	1	1	2	5	6	8	4	5
Trade	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	1	2	1	2
University	118	97	73	73	66	102	109	137	146	172	113
Other post-secondary	12	8	8	13	24	15	13	23	14	28	17
Level not stated	6	3	6	4	4	5	13	12	11	15	9
<b>Principal</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>146</b>
Secondary or less	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	1
Trade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
University	9	7	9	7	9	14	13	24	22	32	35
Other post-secondary	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	3	1	6	1
Level not stated	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	4	5
<b>Spouse &amp; Common Law</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>
Secondary or less	71	69	63	86	64	74	164	249	209	276	224
Trade	0	1	0	0	0	2	6	4	3	6	2
University	0	1	0	3	2	3	7	11	5	7	16
Other post-secondary	4	7	3	6	11	6	14	23	17	25	25
Level not stated	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	5	2	5	13
<b>Dependents</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

Table 12 also shows exactly when the change in the volume of foreign student transitions who were dependants with less than high school education occurred. Between 2004 and 2005 the number more than doubled from 74 to 164 and continued to grow in the years that followed.

Further analysis of the 224 dependent foreign students who transitioned to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada in 2009 and who studied at the level of high school or less reveals that 190 (84%) are dependants of Provincial Nominees and 21 (9%) are dependants of skilled workers. Of those spouses and children with post-secondary education 65% were related to Provincial Nominees. (See Table 14 for information on the importance of the various immigration classes by family class).

In contrast, of the 130 foreign students in Atlantic Canada who transitioned to permanent resident status in 2009 and who were principal applicants with a post secondary education, 70 transitioned as skilled workers, 15 as provincial nominees and 41 as spouses and partners (who came separately from their sponsors and therefore were principal applicants).

Table 12 also indicates that although foreign students who transition with a family status of spouses and common law make up a relatively small proportion of these foreign students, they tend to be relatively well educated: more than 80% have a university degree.

### ***Occupational skill***

It is often difficult to determine the skill level and occupation of new entrants to the labour market. By definition, new entrants have little experience and their skills are untested. This makes coding to a particular occupation difficult. So it is no surprise that limited information is available about the skill level of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status<sup>15</sup>. In addition, as we have seen, many foreign students are children.

Of the 468 foreign students who transitioned to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada in 2009, more than 75% (362 in total) reported occupational skills that could not be coded to a standard National Occupational Classification group<sup>16</sup>. These included 289 reporting that their skill level was “student”, 45 reporting that they were “new workers” and 16 reporting being homemakers.

---

<sup>15</sup> It would also be interesting to know the students’ field of studies, but this information is not available.

<sup>16</sup> The National Occupational Classification (NOC) is the nationally accepted reference on occupations in Canada. It provides a standardized framework for organizing the world of work into a coherent system. The NOC classifies over 30,000 job titles into 520 occupational group descriptions with four digit codes. These can be rolled up to two digit codes and further combined to a letter code designating overall groupings of skills: managerial, professional, skilled and technical, intermediate and clerical skills and unskilled. Due to the prevalence of small cells in data for the Atlantic Region only the lettered occupational groups are provided in this paper.

**Table 13: Atlantic Canada – foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by occupational skill level, 1999-2009**

Transition Occupational	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
0 - Managerial	2	2	2	2	2	2	7	13	16	15	16
A - Professionals	108	79	61	64	44	66	63	95	90	117	75
B - Skilled and Technical	10	7	7	4	8	13	12	13	25	23	13
C - Intermediate and Clerical		2	1	1		1	1	3	4	4	1
Uncoded Skills*	104	109	97	123	128	147	265	378	308	426	362
Skill level not stated			3				1		1		1
<b>Atlantic Canada</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

\* This is a category that groups new workers, students, and homemakers together because it is not possible to assign a particular occupational code to them when no occupation is declared.

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

Among those who did intend to work and reported a specific skill level, the single largest occupational skill group was Professionals, National Occupational Classification (NOC) Group A, of which there were 75 in 2009, spread over 68 different occupations (see Table 13). The only occupation of any size was “post-secondary teaching and research assistants” of which there were 28 in Atlantic Canada in 2009. The numbers in any particular group dropped with the next largest occupations being four foreign students transitioning in civil engineering, and computer programmers and interactive media development respectively<sup>17</sup>. There were also three in biologists and related scientists, and college and other vocational instructors. Over the period, other occupations with significant numbers have included electrical and electronics engineers, chemists, although in 2009 the numbers of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in these occupations were small or zero.

### Immigration category of foreign student transitions by family status and immigrant class

The family status and immigration category under which foreign students transition to permanent resident status indicates both the importance of economic drivers and ties other than labour market or economic for foreign students in Atlantic Canada. For example, if we look only at principal applicants, we see that about 60% of foreign student transitions (or 89) who were principal applicants landed in Atlantic Canada in 2009 in an economic-related category such as skilled workers or provincial nominees (see Table 14). Of these, skilled workers were the most important. Almost all of the rest of the principal applicants (almost 40%), landed in family class.

<sup>17</sup> Interactive media development was also reported by foreign workers who had post-graduate employment permits. See the “Other Considerations” section later in this paper.



**Table 14: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status and immigration class, 1999-2009**

<b>Immigration Class</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Family class	31	27	25	22	35	45	55	51	47	64	50
<i>Entrepreneurs</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Self-employed</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Skilled workers</i>	108	83	64	65	44	69	72	111	109	123	73
<i>Provincial nominees</i>	0	1	3	0	4	7	11	12	16	21	16
Economic immigrants	108	84	69	65	48	76	83	123	125	144	89
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other Immigrants	0	0	0	5	12	5	4	5	9	12	7
<b>Principal applicants</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>146</b>
Family class	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
<i>Skilled workers</i>	10	8	10	7	7	16	12	19	22	25	19
<i>Canadian Exper Class</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<i>Provincial nominees</i>	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	12	4	21	20
Economic immigrants	10	8	11	7	10	17	13	31	26	46	41
<b>Spouse and Common Law</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>
Family class	8	15	17	11	22	7	7	9	4	8	14
<i>Entrepreneurs</i>	4	11	1	4	2	3	1	3	0	0	0
<i>Self-employed</i>	2	0	1	1	3	0	0	3	0	1	0
<i>Investors</i>	0	0	1	3	3	4	14	6	7	2	6
<i>Skilled workers</i>	61	51	43	58	27	27	39	34	50	45	26
<i>Provincial nominees</i>	0	1	3	9	19	41	128	237	164	263	233
<i>Live-in caregivers</i>	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Economic immigrants	67	63	49	76	54	76	182	283	221	311	265
Other Immigrants	0	0	0	5	1	3	4	0	10	0	0
<b>Dependents</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Atlantic Foreign Student Transitions</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

While many foreign students who transition to permanent resident status will contribute to the Atlantic labour market, less than a fifth were specifically selected based on their labour market attributes (only the principal applicant skilled workers and provincial nominees). In earlier years, for example in 1999, the proportion selected for their labour market attributes was much higher and accounted for just under half of the foreign student transitions.<sup>18</sup> Over the years, this proportion has fallen steadily. These admissions based on labour market attributes (skills) are proportionally less than in the rest of Canada where they represented 34% of foreign student landings in 2009, but where only a couple of years previously it had been as high as 43%.

There were more than twice as many foreign students transitioning who are dependents and spouses than principal applicants. The dependents and spouses had a very high propensity to land in the provincial nominee category in 2009. In fact, there were 253 foreign students who were spouses and dependants landing in the PNP category, but we have no information about their labour market attributes. Table 14 shows the rapid growth in accompanying dependants who landed in the provincial nominee category especially over the years 2004-2006. By 2009, the ratio of Provincial Nominee dependants to principal applicants is 14:1<sup>19</sup>. This rapid change

<sup>18</sup> Although some foreign student spouse and common-law partners may add their skills to the Atlantic labour market, labour market attributes are only assessed for the principal applicant, so we cannot know the possible extent of the contributions of their spouses, and in any case their numbers are relatively small.

<sup>19</sup> Please note that some of these PN dependents are likely transitioning as dependents of Provincial Nominee Principal Applicants who were not previously foreign students and therefore are beyond the scope of this paper.

suggests a closer look at the landings in the Provincial Nominee Program in order to examine the pre-landing characteristics of principal applicants associated with these dependants.

## Provincial Nominee Program and Skilled Worker Program

As indicated above, the volume of Provincial Nominee Program and Federal Skilled Worker Program admissions have an influence on the number of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada. The previous section demonstrated that foreign students who are principal applicants tend to land under the Skilled Worker category, while foreign students who are dependants were more likely to land under the Provincial Nominee (PNP) category.

**Table 15: Atlantic Canada – Landings for Provincial Nominee and Skilled Worker categories, 1999-2009**

Transition province	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
To Newfoundland and Labrador	86	79	53	64	39	64	62	72	74	89	61
To Prince Edward Island	9	18	15	5	10	15	13	11	13	24	12
To Nova Scotia	261	246	309	251	215	280	302	346	329	356	271
To New Brunswick	141	123	120	85	56	88	88	94	111	129	130
<b>Principal Applicants</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>474</b>
To Newfoundland and Labrador	105	106	62	83	51	102	76	83	99	94	79
To Prince Edward Island	1	20	13	6	8	18	17	13	24	23	16
To Nova Scotia	321	303	422	360	384	467	470	446	423	529	458
To New Brunswick	173	139	139	126	67	88	111	99	112	169	161
<b>Spouses &amp; Dependants</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>714</b>
<b>Skilled Workers</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>1,034</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>1,188</b>
To Newfoundland and Labrador			13	9	15	55	27	30	25	56	82
To Prince Edward Island				2	14	44	65	138	260	383	489
To Nova Scotia			2			20	105	253	287	319	302
To New Brunswick		10	31	45	63	65	149	329	322	349	396
<b>Principal Applicants</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>1,269</b>
To Newfoundland and Labrador			22	27	22	116	58	47	42	47	98
To Prince Edward Island				8	30	97	139	285	555	864	1,043
To Nova Scotia			9			44	221	610	613	547	531
To New Brunswick		12	39	60	83	96	289	638	599	686	771
<b>Spouses &amp; Dependants</b>		<b>12</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>2,443</b>
<b>Provincial Nominees</b>		<b>22</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>1,053</b>	<b>2,330</b>	<b>2,703</b>	<b>3,251</b>	<b>3,712</b>
<b>Atlantic Economic Immigrant Landings</b>	<b>1,587</b>	<b>1,598</b>	<b>1,562</b>	<b>1,325</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>1,870</b>	<b>2,333</b>	<b>3,660</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>4,771</b>	<b>5,078</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

Note: This table presents transitions from all temporary classes, not only foreign student transitions.<sup>20</sup>

Table 15 shows the historical importance of the Federal Skilled Worker Program in Atlantic Canada as well as the rapid growth of the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) starting in 2004. Nova Scotia has been the main recipient of skilled workers and their families over the years but after the introduction of the Provincial Nominee Program, the province with the largest number of landings under the provincial nominee program was New Brunswick with Prince Edward Island following closely. Nova Scotia also saw large increases in the numbers of landings under PNP.

<sup>20</sup> The temporary classes include foreign worker, foreign student, humanitarian and other.

It is clear that the nature of permanent immigration categories, especially the Provincial Nominee Program, has influenced the characteristics of foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada. The characteristics of these students changed to reflect the changes in the admission categories of permanent residents: as we saw earlier, there is an increasing proportion of foreign students transitioning in Atlantic Canada are who are high school age and are dependents of PNP principal applicants.

Other research on Atlantic Provincial Nominee Program participants has shown that they tend to have higher mobility than those nominated by other provinces. In fact, during the period 2000 to 2006 one out of two Atlantic provinces' nominees who filed taxes were found in other provinces<sup>21</sup> with 88% of these movers found in Ontario and British Columbia. Therefore, the likelihood of any particular Atlantic province retaining foreign students who are dependants of provincial nominees over the longer term must be a consideration in determining the extent of the impact on population and labour market impact.

### Transition to other temporary resident statuses

In addition to foreign students who decide to become permanent residents after completing their studies in Canada, we should also consider those who take a less direct route to permanent resident status, for example those who transition to other temporary resident statuses and who may subsequently become a permanent resident. An example would be foreign students who transition to foreign worker status. Table 16 provides information about the numbers of students who transition to other temporary resident statuses in Atlantic Canada. Unfortunately, in most cases but the one noted below in the “Other Considerations” section of the paper, the data extract does not allow us to follow them after their change in status to another temporary resident.

**Table 16: Atlantic Canada – Transitions among temporary resident statuses in Atlantic Canada, 1999-2009**

Transition	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<i>From foreign students</i>	75	83	128	99	105	207	292	418	554	613	912
<i>From humanitarian population</i>	1	2	1	1			2		1		4
<i>From other</i>	121	163	167	148	154	215	211	242	231	237	244
<b>To Foreign workers</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>1,160</b>
<i>From Foreign workers</i>	11	17	32	23	26	31	30	51	54	48	51
<i>From humanitarian population</i>		5		1	1		2				
<i>From other</i>	34	42	45	47	42	38	45	28	56	61	80
<b>To Foreign students</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>131</b>
<i>From foreign workers</i>	9	5	5	17	11	2	12	6	19	15	22
<i>From foreign students</i>	17	16	19	51	43	30	36	36	31	24	24
<i>From other</i>	7	6	15	33	34	19	23	21	27	16	16
<b>To Humanitarian population</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>62</b>
<i>From foreign workers</i>	64	71	51	67	508	88	86	75	77	56	77
<i>From foreign students</i>	46	68	52	55	115	106	89	74	57	59	71
<i>From humanitarian population</i>	1		1				1	1	3	2	
<b>To Other</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>952</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>1,501</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

<sup>21</sup> Ima Okonny-Meyers *The Intra-Provincial Mobility of Immigrants in Canada, June 2010*. This paper used data from the Longitudinal Immigrant Database (IMDB), so findings are based on immigrants who filed taxes at some time during the period 2000-2006.

Comparing this table with Table 3 we see that until 2007 there were always more foreign students transitioning directly to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada than to foreign workers. After 2007, transitions from foreign students to foreign worker status became more important. In 2009, more than 900 foreign students transitioned to foreign worker status<sup>22</sup> which is almost double the number of foreign students (468) who transitioned immediately to permanent resident status. With the new Canadian Experience Class program, the attractiveness of this option to foreign students could increase substantially in the coming years.

The number of foreign students transitioning to the humanitarian population and to “other” over the years has been relatively low and steady by comparison.

## Other considerations

Until now, the analyses have focussed exclusively on foreign students who transitioned directly to permanent resident status. As noted above, this is because, with one exception, the data extract does not allow us to follow more than one change in status. However, amongst those new permanent residents who were previously foreign workers it is possible to identify people who worked in Canada under a category called “post-graduate employment”. This is made up of people who previously studied in Canada and went on to work in Canada and at the moment of being captured by the data are transitioning to permanent resident status from foreign worker status. Post graduate employment occurs in the years immediately following graduation from a Canadian post-secondary institution. As noted above, the Canadian Experience Class Program is increasing the attractiveness of this option to foreign students<sup>23</sup>. Table 17 indicates that foreign worker transitions increased significantly in 2006, and this was also true of those with post-graduate employment. Post-graduate employment is slightly more important in Atlantic Canada than in the rest of the country. In 2008, limitations on post-graduate work were lifted<sup>24</sup> and the number of transitions is expected to increase in the future.

**Table 17: Atlantic Canada – Transitions to permanent resident status from foreign workers who held post-graduate employment permits, Atlantic Canada and the rest of Canada, 1999-2009**

Transition to Permanent Resident	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>Atlantic Canada</b>											
Post-Graduate	14	10	16	11	13	20	31	101	144	157	161
<b>Foreign Worker</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>939</b>
<b>Proportion</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
<b>Rest of Canada</b>											
Post-Graduate	352	339	411	315	329	438	531	1,012	1,313	1,914	3,522
<b>Foreign Worker</b>	<b>10,546</b>	<b>11,409</b>	<b>12,643</b>	<b>9,155</b>	<b>7,924</b>	<b>11,151</b>	<b>13,100</b>	<b>17,640</b>	<b>19,076</b>	<b>26,050</b>	<b>30,062</b>
<b>Proportion</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>12%</b>

Source: Citizenship & Immigration Canada, RDM, *Facts and Figures 2009*

In Atlantic Canada, those transitioning from post-graduate employment are most likely to be male and 93% were Principal Applicants. About 60% came from China and another 6% from India. Almost 70 were in professional occupations of which financial auditors and accountants

<sup>22</sup> Recall that Table 3 provided information about how many foreign workers transitioned over the years to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada

<sup>23</sup> However, of the 1372 students landing in Canada under the Canadian Experience Class Program in 2009, only 28 landed in Atlantic Canada, while 927 landed in Ontario, 218 in BC and 179 in Alberta.

<sup>24</sup> After 2008 post-graduate work permits were issued for up to three years, students no longer needed a job offer to be eligible for the program and geographic limitations were lifted.

and computer programmers and interactive media developers were the two single largest occupations (10 each). Another 37 were in skilled and technical occupations, and 21 were in managerial occupations and intermediate and clerical occupations respectively.

## Conclusion

The number of foreign students studying in Atlantic Canada has been increasing over the past ten years as are the number making the transition to permanent resident status. Over this period transitions have risen from just over 200 per year to fewer than 500 per year. Nevertheless, Atlantic Canada falls slightly below the Canadian average in the number of foreign students who transition immediately to permanent residents. The proportion of foreign students who remained in Canada and Atlantic Canada and transitioned to permanent resident status has traditionally been relatively small at about five percent (or less) in Atlantic Canada compared to about 6% or less in the rest of Canada. The majority of those who become permanent residents in Atlantic Canada studied in the same province in which they become permanent residents although traditionally there is a small net outflow of foreign students who studied in Atlantic Canada but transitioned to permanent resident status in provinces outside Atlantic Canada. In 2009, there was a small inflow (29) from the rest of Canada to Atlantic Canada.

In the Atlantic provinces, transitions from foreign student to permanent resident status are less important than the volume of foreign workers who transitioned to permanent resident status. For example, foreign worker transitions have become more significant in recent years rising from about 24% (in 1999) of all temporary to permanent transitions to 47% (2009) while the proportion of foreign students of all transitions to permanent status have remained almost static at 21% to 23%. This is not to say that foreign student transitions have not been growing, they have been, just not as quickly as those from foreign workers.

In terms of characteristics, foreign students transitioning are likely to be male. As in the rest of Canada, China and South Korea are important source countries, accounting for about 45% in 2009. China is the main source country in Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia while Korea is the main source country in PEI and New Brunswick.

About half of the foreign students who transition to permanent resident status in Atlantic Canada are between the ages of 19 and 31 and almost another 40% are 18 years or younger. The age profile is more heavily weighted towards the younger group in Atlantic Canada than in the rest of Canada where those between the ages of 19 and 31 comprise 60% of student transitions and 27% are 18 years or younger.

The fact that so many foreign students transitioning in Atlantic Canada are young could be the reason that the educational levels of those transitioning to permanent resident status have been gradually declining over the period. By 2009, less than 45% of foreign students transitioning have post-secondary education compared to 64% a decade earlier. Of those with secondary school or less, almost all are dependents, mainly of PNPs or skilled workers.

Over the period and more particularly since 2004, a growing proportion of foreign students transitioning have a family status of dependents rather than principal applicants.

## Discussion

The fact that so many foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status are dependents of Provincial Nominees or Skilled Workers may have important ramifications for Atlantic Canada. For example, it could affect the economic impact on the provinces concerned should the principal applicant decide to leave the province for labour market (or other) reasons. Other research has shown that PNPs are a highly mobile population with only half of PNPs that were nominated in Atlantic Canada remaining in there. If the principal applicants leave the province

for jobs elsewhere the impact on the population will be stronger due to the dependants tied to them.

With regard to the long term impact of the level of education of foreign students studying at the high school level or less: as they transition to permanent resident status it will take much longer for these immigrants to be labour market ready because they tend to be younger and in the process of completing their education. However, if a high proportion of them are children their socio-economic outcomes may be similar to those of the Canadian-born especially in comparison to those who are older when they land and can face challenges integrating into society and the labour market<sup>25</sup>. In addition, these children will temporarily contribute to reducing the region's age profile.

In general, in terms of being able to predict the impact of foreign student transitions on the labour market, principal applicants who transition to categories closely tied to the labour market such as skilled workers and provincial nominees made up only 25% of all foreign student landings in Atlantic Canada in 2009. The rest were children and spouses about whom there is limited information as to their labour market readiness. And, as the occupational analysis indicated, the majority could not be coded to a specific occupational group because they had limited experience in the labour market. Of those that could indicate an occupation, the majority had occupations related to post-secondary institutions.

Finally, as noted earlier, the current data only allow the analysis of permanent residents whose immediate prior status is "foreign student" although we can see from the data, for example the data on post-graduate employment, that many foreign students transition first to foreign worker status and may subsequently transition to permanent resident status. Improvements to the administrative data system allowing the capture of any prior occurrence of foreign student status would permit a more complete analysis of foreign student transitions and retention rates and thus the importance of this immigration stream to Canada.

---

<sup>25</sup> See for example Schaafsma & Sweetman *Immigrant Earnings: Age at Immigration Matters*, CJE, V34 #4, 2003 and Kalbach & Kalbach *The Importance of Ethnic Connectedness for Canada's Post-War Immigrants*, Canadian Ethnic Studies, 27:16-33, 1995.

## Appendix A

**Table A-1: Transitions from temporary resident to permanent resident status, rest of Canada 1999-2009**

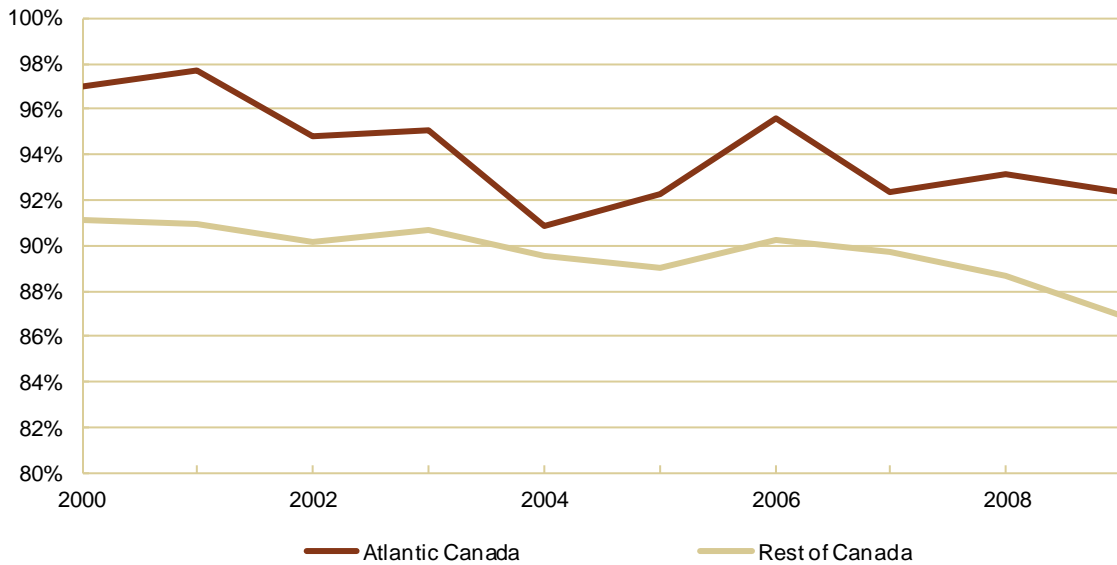
Transition	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
From foreign workers	1,446	1,760	1,931	1,880	1,535	1,737	1,832	2,601	2,878	3,519	3,816
From foreign students	1,083	1,107	1,485	1,512	1,632	1,925	1,820	2,589	2,791	2,108	1,911
From humanitarian	5,507	5,848	5,002	4,683	4,375	5,217	5,284	5,525	4,967	2,907	2,789
From Other	1,051	1,157	1,291	1,228	1,764	1,889	1,588	1,989	1,911	1,939	1,855
<b>To PR in Quebec</b>	<b>9,087</b>	<b>9,872</b>	<b>9,709</b>	<b>9,303</b>	<b>9,306</b>	<b>10,768</b>	<b>10,524</b>	<b>12,704</b>	<b>12,547</b>	<b>10,473</b>	<b>10,371</b>
From foreign workers	4,906	5,532	6,082	4,276	3,273	4,912	5,795	7,077	7,481	10,125	10,982
From foreign students	2,158	2,305	2,333	2,089	2,063	2,650	3,056	3,370	3,539	3,900	3,174
From humanitarian	8,953	11,310	10,392	8,981	10,335	13,545	18,172	16,171	13,279	9,645	10,257
From Other	4,631	5,161	5,711	5,851	6,047	6,316	5,376	5,679	6,327	6,871	6,483
<b>To PR in Ontario</b>	<b>20,648</b>	<b>24,308</b>	<b>24,518</b>	<b>21,197</b>	<b>21,718</b>	<b>27,423</b>	<b>32,399</b>	<b>32,297</b>	<b>30,626</b>	<b>30,541</b>	<b>30,896</b>
From foreign workers	254	269	297	221	221	388	458	771	842	1,322	1,591
From foreign students	147	163	125	160	172	243	259	347	273	356	313
From humanitarian	54	237	211	114	176	125	139	137	144	115	91
From Other	228	187	203	241	296	400	390	483	396	516	533
<b>To PR in Manitoba</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,246</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>1,655</b>	<b>2,309</b>	<b>2,528</b>
From foreign workers	219	218	179	174	179	274	305	568	620	821	1,309
From foreign students	173	180	139	131	136	143	143	271	233	256	252
From humanitarian	46	189	97	61	75	61	33	22	24	45	53
From Other	126	125	116	138	170	237	213	328	292	345	360
<b>To PR in Saskatchewan</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>1,467</b>	<b>1,974</b>
From foreign workers	1,317	1,403	1,636	1,115	1,122	1,513	1,863	2,509	2,853	4,441	5,719
From foreign students	528	471	575	459	406	620	617	836	857	1,108	1,033
From humanitarian	303	779	546	569	711	759	799	883	949	758	822
From Other	806	720	836	914	1,029	1,293	1,141	1,269	1,490	1,919	1,816
<b>To PR in Alberta</b>	<b>2,954</b>	<b>3,373</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>3,057</b>	<b>3,268</b>	<b>4,185</b>	<b>4,420</b>	<b>5,497</b>	<b>6,149</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>9,390</b>
From foreign workers	2,373	2,186	2,481	1,455	1,567	2,309	2,814	4,049	4,348	5,727	6,534
From foreign students	1,072	1,009	1,193	1,089	1,057	1,448	1,712	2,093	2,171	2,437	2,080
From humanitarian	955	1,722	1,341	1,360	1,178	1,449	1,385	1,229	1,040	926	964
From Other	1,702	1,649	1,836	1,902	2,254	2,826	2,367	2,778	2,845	3,308	2,939
<b>To PR in British Columbia</b>	<b>6,102</b>	<b>6,566</b>	<b>6,851</b>	<b>5,806</b>	<b>6,056</b>	<b>8,032</b>	<b>8,278</b>	<b>10,149</b>	<b>10,404</b>	<b>12,398</b>	<b>12,517</b>
From foreign workers	31	41	37	34	27	18	33	65	54	95	111
From foreign students	3	3	10	2	2	7	6	12	7	14	15
From humanitarian	1	3	2	8	14	13	7	9	17	20	9
From Other	23	18	18	12	19	27	16	16	18	25	25
<b>To PR in Territories*</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>160</b>
From foreign workers	10,546	11,409	12,643	9,155	7,924	11,151	13,100	17,640	19,076	26,050	30,062
From foreign students	5,164	5,238	5,860	5,442	5,468	7,036	7,613	9,518	9,871	10,179	8,778
From humanitarian	15,819	20,088	17,591	15,776	16,864	21,169	25,819	23,976	20,420	14,416	14,985
From Other	8,567	9,017	10,011	10,286	11,579	12,988	11,091	12,542	13,279	14,923	14,011
<b>To PR in rest of Canada</b>	<b>40,096</b>	<b>45,752</b>	<b>46,105</b>	<b>40,659</b>	<b>41,835</b>	<b>52,344</b>	<b>57,623</b>	<b>63,676</b>	<b>62,646</b>	<b>65,568</b>	<b>67,836</b>

\*Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut

Source: Research Data Mart, Transitions *Facts & Figures 2009* Extract

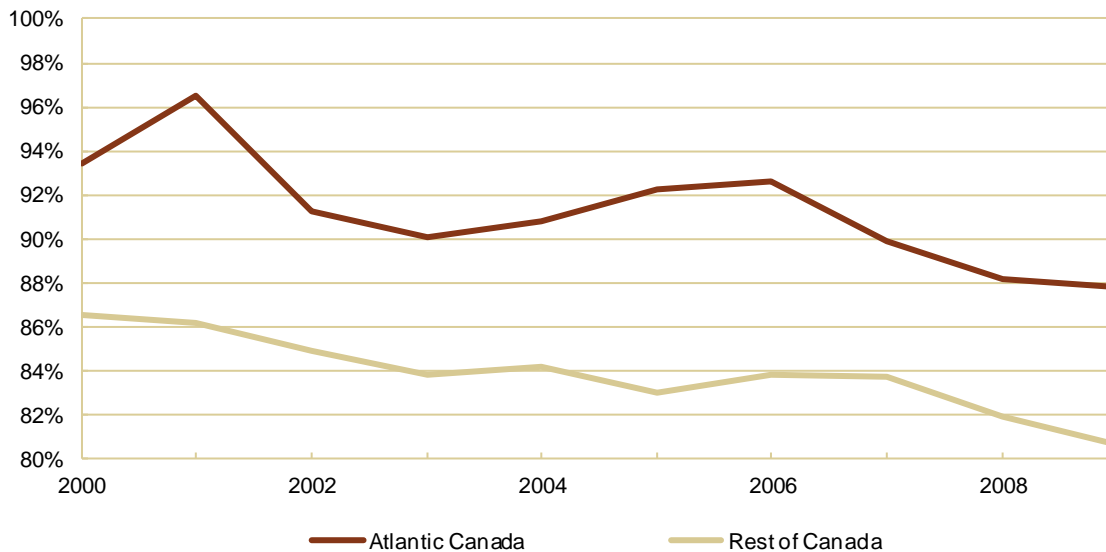


**Figure A-1: Canada – Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident present in Canada as foreign students in transition or previous year, Atlantic Canada and rest of Canada 2000-2009**



Source: Research Data Mart, *Facts and Figures 2009* Extract

**Figure A-2: Proportion of foreign students transitioning to permanent resident present in Canada as foreign students in transition year only, Canada and Atlantic Canada 2000-2009**



Source: Research Data Mart, *Facts and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-2: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by age group, rest of Canada 1999-2009**

Age Group	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
18 and under	1,975	1,934	2,199	1,994	1,596	1,739	1,729	1,934	2,039	2,433	2,330
19-31	2,422	2,581	2,822	2,754	3,142	4,198	4,772	6,131	6,435	6,340	5,260
32 and over	766	723	839	694	730	1,099	1,112	1,453	1,397	1,406	1,188
<b>RoC</b>	<b>5,163</b>	<b>5,238</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,442</b>	<b>5,468</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>9,871</b>	<b>10,179</b>	<b>8,778</b>
<b>Rest of Canada Proportion</b>											
18 and under	38%	37%	38%	37%	29%	25%	23%	20%	21%	24%	27%
19-31	47%	49%	48%	51%	57%	60%	63%	64%	65%	62%	60%
32 and over	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%	16%	15%	15%	14%	14%	14%

Source: Research Data Mart, Transition *Fact and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-3: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by country of origin, rest of Canada\***

Country of residence	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
China	732	734	541	657	722	1,094	1,549	1,973	1,948	2,209	1,808
South Korea	492	581	611	747	784	859	973	1285	1264	1526	1133
India	172	200	198	186	172	324	353	572	525	622	548
France	241	244	278	308	316	421	390	448	501	484	462
United Kingdom	190	169	242	231	183	255	288	293	489	434	459
USA	479	521	511	421	349	394	409	477	425	479	404
Taiwan	336	203	255	195	192	268	361	373	374	403	319
Iran	101	75	106	61	75	131	184	401	423	362	291
Morocco	146	158	285	209	268	256	207	258	332	224	192
Germany	90	70	73	75	54	86	92	88	90	151	183
South Africa	73	94	147	156	115	108	99	144	154	122	166
Brazil	63	72	72	45	49	79	75	90	91	109	147
Japan	154	105	151	100	94	118	123	135	148	163	145
Mexico	93	80	98	120	94	102	101	143	117	116	115
Tunisia	67	61	143	94	166	172	130	176	152	117	101
Bangladesh	22	30	35	28	31	80	101	157	117	122	90
Philippines	54	38	36	28	34	39	43	43	50	85	89
Egypt	36	20	36	28	20	55	66	61	92	118	88
Pakistan	81	91	88	74	72	74	82	92	82	86	88
Vietnam	28	28	56	55	70	109	133	156	143	138	85
Venezuela	23	29	37	36	76	50	87	86	86	139	84
Israel	32	37	44	67	76	77	76	72	103	96	81
Nigeria	32	37	57	43	35	80	66	117	117	104	79
Russia	47	80	89	61	46	47	59	80	81	71	78
United Arab Emirates	14	32	57	37	39	46	60	104	74	106	78
Turkey	23	22	31	40	29	49	56	71	84	89	75
Ukraine	27	44	28	30	36	40	42	37	61	48	75
Hong Kong	183	149	120	80	86	140	122	106	101	93	68
Colombia	63	62	121	89	84	77	58	64	56	55	67
Australia	37	43	50	36	45	54	43	38	46	40	60
Senegal	18	20	15	32	31	38	36	52	83	57	58
All Others	1,240	1,308	1,420	1,267	1,207	1,543	1,498	1,828	1,906	1,796	1,530
<b>Rest of Canada</b>	<b>5,389</b>	<b>5,437</b>	<b>6,031</b>	<b>5,636</b>	<b>5,650</b>	<b>7,265</b>	<b>7,962</b>	<b>10,020</b>	<b>10,315</b>	<b>10,764</b>	<b>9,246</b>

\* Includes all countries with more than 50 foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in Canada in 2009.

Source: Research Data Mart, Transition *Fact and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-4: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by country of origin, Atlantic Canada\***

Country of residence	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Republic of Korea	4	8	3	7	11	25	98	184	120	166	105
People's Republic of China	61	44	25	34	31	42	52	72	49	105	99
United Kingdom	9	12	14	19	7	7	10	18	35	28	26
United States	21	19	16	22	16	10	22	28	27	25	26
Federal Republic of Germany	3	5	6	3	2	2	7		7	10	19
Taiwan				2		6	20	27	29	29	17
India	22	17	8	11	18	18	12	24	33	23	15
Iran	1		3	3	2	2	6	18	14	16	10
Bangladesh	4	9	1	1	4	3	3	18	16	20	9
Nigeria	6	3	6	5	2	9	8	7	11	9	9
Australia	3	2	2	2	5	6	1				7
Republic of Ireland	4	1						1		5	7
Republic of South Africa		13	7	6	7	3	3	8	13	8	7
United Arab Emirates	1	3	4	3	3	2	5	12	2	8	7
Japan	1	2	3	2	2	3		1	1	4	6
Pakistan	5	4	7	11	8	2	4	1	4	4	6
France	3		1	6	3	3	3	1		6	5
Libya	5	1	2	2				3	3	5	5
Saudi Arabia	1	3		1	1	2	4	5	2	3	5
All Others	70	53	63	54	60	84	91	74	78	111	78
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

\*Includes countries with more than 5 foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status in 2009.

Source: Research Data Mart, Transition *Fact and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-5: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by level of study at transition, rest of Canada 1999-2009**

Transition level of study	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Secondary or less	2,258	2,230	2,553	2,288	1,934	2,163	2,304	2,589	2,660	3,146	3,043
Trade	118	79	113	103	105	182	149	157	175	183	190
University	2,144	2,180	2,341	2,190	2,344	3,267	3,447	4,966	5,177	4,897	3,816
Other post-secondary	423	511	559	551	634	818	866	872	840	884	797
Level of study not stated	221	238	294	310	451	606	847	934	1,019	1,069	932
<b>Rest of Canada</b>	<b>5,164</b>	<b>5,238</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,442</b>	<b>5,468</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>9,871</b>	<b>10,179</b>	<b>8,778</b>
% PSE	<b>49.7%</b>	<b>51.4%</b>	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>50.4%</b>	<b>54.5%</b>	<b>58.1%</b>	<b>56.7%</b>	<b>61.3%</b>	<b>61.0%</b>	<b>56.8%</b>	<b>52.6%</b>
% Secondary or Less	43.7%	42.6%	43.6%	42.0%	35.4%	30.7%	30.3%	27.2%	26.9%	30.9%	34.7%

Source: Research Data Mart, Transitions *Facts and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-6: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status 1999-2009, rest of Canada**

Family status	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Principal Applicants	2,715	2,786	3,072	2,844	3,215	4,286	4,629	5,987	6,263	5,998	4,782
Spouse or Dependants	2,449	2,452	2,788	2,598	2,253	2,750	2,984	3,531	3,608	4,181	3,996
<b>RoC</b>	<b>5,164</b>	<b>5,238</b>	<b>5,860</b>	<b>5,442</b>	<b>5,468</b>	<b>7,036</b>	<b>7,613</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>9,871</b>	<b>10,179</b>	<b>8,778</b>
% Principal Applicants	<b>52.6%</b>	<b>53.2%</b>	<b>52.4%</b>	<b>52.3%</b>	<b>58.8%</b>	<b>60.9%</b>	<b>60.8%</b>	<b>62.9%</b>	<b>63.4%</b>	<b>58.9%</b>	<b>54.5%</b>
% Spouse or Dependents	47.4%	46.8%	47.6%	47.7%	41.2%	39.1%	39.2%	37.1%	36.6%	41.1%	45.5%

Source: Research Data Mart, Transitions *Facts and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-7: Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status 1999-2009, Atlantic Canada**

Family status	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Principal applicants	139	111	94	92	95	126	143	179	181	220	146
Spouse or dependants	85	88	77	102	87	103	206	323	263	365	322
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>
% Principal applicant	62.1%	55.8%	55.0%	47.4%	52.2%	55.0%	41.0%	35.7%	40.8%	37.6%	31.2%
% Spouses or dependents	37.9%	44.2%	45.0%	52.6%	47.8%	45.0%	59.0%	64.3%	59.2%	62.4%	68.8%

Source: Research Data Mart, Transitions *Facts and Figures 2009* Extract

**Table A-8: Atlantic Canada – Foreign students transitioning to permanent resident status by family status and age**

Age Group	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
10 to 14	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	1
15 to 19	0	2	6	1	0	3	1	0	2	1	0
20 to 24	22	15	4	20	15	18	17	31	21	38	21
25 to 29	56	50	45	41	47	52	70	71	81	102	53
30 to 34	35	25	31	19	24	36	32	47	44	47	42
35 to 39	21	13	5	8	7	11	8	20	20	14	12
40 to 44	1	5	2	2	2	4	9	7	9	12	11
45 to 49	2	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	1	5	6
50 to 54	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
55 to 59	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 to 69	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Principal applicants</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>146</b>
20 to 24	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	4
25 to 29	3	3	3	2	7	8	5	12	13	22	16
30 to 34	6	1	4	5	1	4	5	5	6	13	10
35 to 39	0	3	1	0	2	3	2	5	2	5	5
40 to 44	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	5	3	2	5
45 to 49	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	2
<b>Spouse or common law</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>
0 to 4	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 9	26	32	21	23	15	7	20	37	29	39	35
10 to 14	22	23	20	32	24	32	59	90	77	85	75
15 to 19	22	16	20	26	24	29	71	104	91	130	91
20 to 24	4	9	4	11	13	16	41	52	31	60	70
25 to 29	0	0	1	2	1	2	2	9	7	5	9
30 to 34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Dependents</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>280</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>468</b>

Source: Research Data Mart, Transition Facts and Figures Transition 2009 Extract