

# Workforce Focus

From the Niagara Training & Adjustment Board  
 ...Niagara's Workforce Development Board

Immigrants in the  
 Niagara Region  
 workforce

**Immigrant Population:**  
**71,210**

**Recent Immigrant Population (1991-2001):**  
**10,370**

## Immigration Trends

Immigration to the Niagara region occurs at a lesser rate than the provincial average. 21% of Niagara's population are immigrants, compared to 32% of Ontario's population. The most recent group of immigrants to Niagara (those landing from 1991 to 2001) makes up only one percent of the regions population, whereas the most recent immigrants to the province account for 5% of that population.

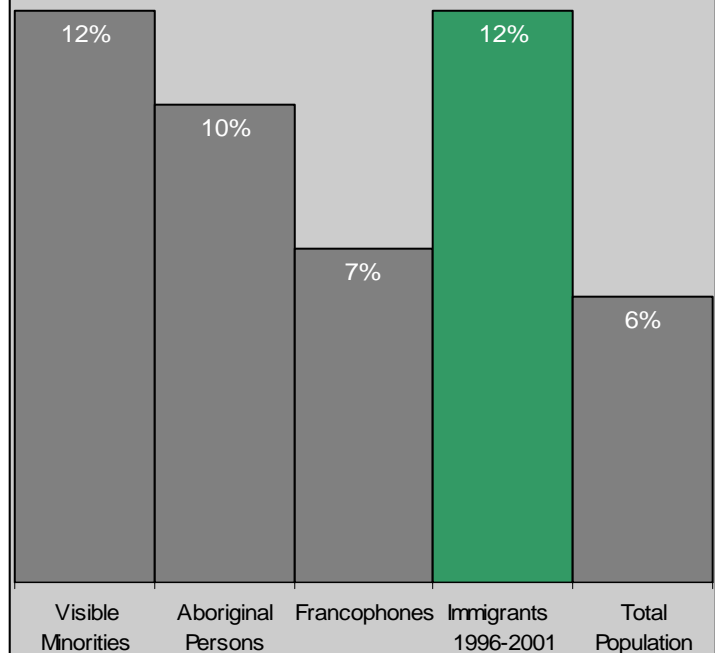
Source: 2001 Census Data, Statistics Canada

## Immigrant Population Niagara Sub-Regions

Source: 2001 Community Profiles, Statistics Canada

	All Immigrants	Recent Immigrants (1991-2001)
Fort Erie	4555	890
Grimsby	3570	400
Lincoln	3245	280
Niagara Falls	15430	2800
Niagara on the Lake	3410	335
Pelham	2255	150
Port Colborne	2190	120
St. Catharines	25805	4345
Thorold	2485	180
Wainfleet	770	70
Wellend	5905	755
West Lincoln	1590	45

## Unemployment Rates Niagara Region



Source: 2001 Census Data, Statistics Canada

## Urban Draw

The greatest number of immigrants in Niagara are found in St. Catharines, followed by Niagara Falls. It is typical for immigrants to first settle in larger cities. St. Catharines is home to 36% of Niagara's immigrants, and received 42% of the most recent immigrants. Likewise, Niagara Falls is home to 22% of Niagara's immigrants, and received 27% of the most recent immigrants.

## Employment Patterns

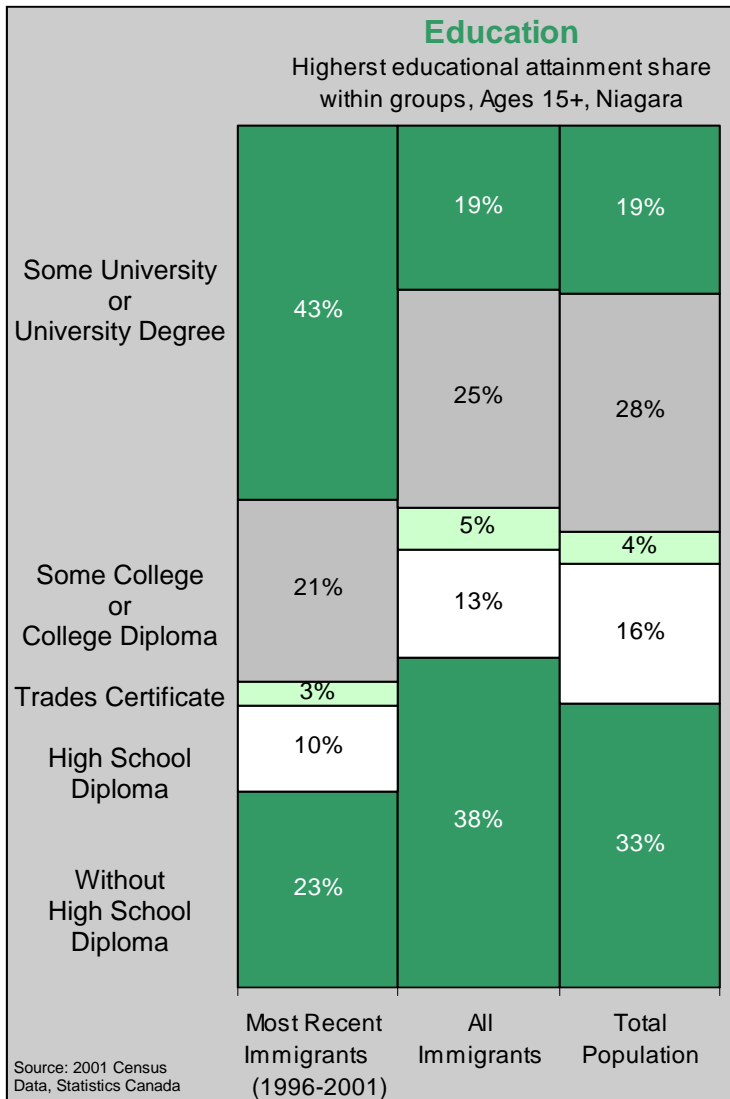
The unemployment rate of Niagara's most recent immigrants is 12%; double that of the regions total population. This high rate is not abnormal, as recent immigrants across Ontario experience 13% unemployment. Within Niagara's recent immigrant population, the greatest unemployment rates are experienced by Professionals in Social Science, Education, Government Services and Religion, and Sales.



For more information contact the Niagara Training and Adjustment Board at: [www.ntab.org](http://www.ntab.org)  
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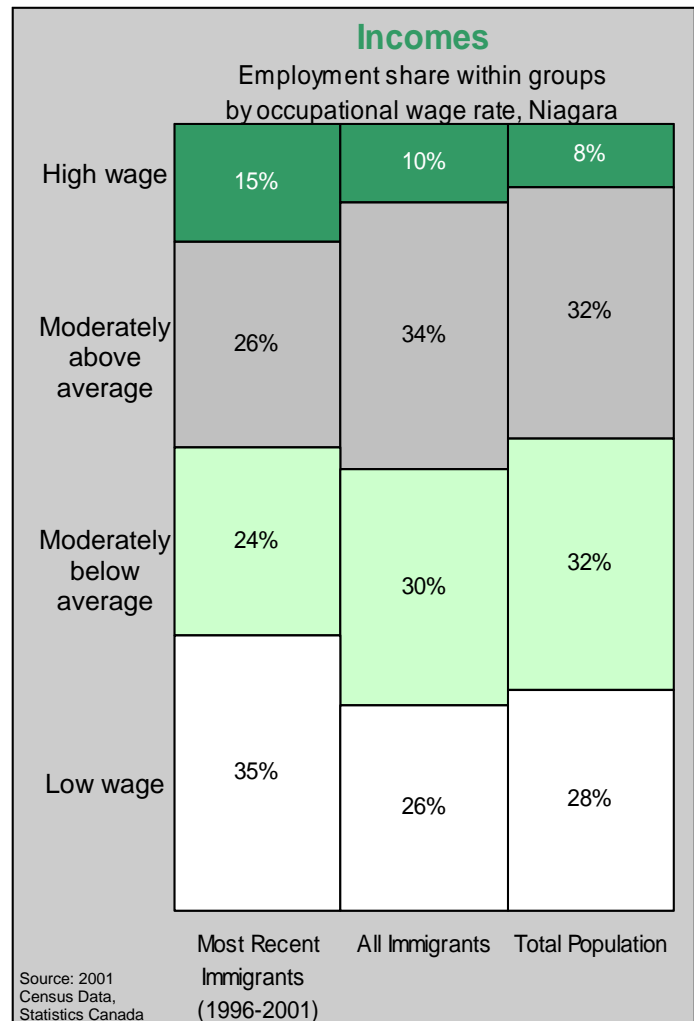
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### Measuring Credentials

The most recent immigrants to Niagara are collectively higher educated than the rest of the regions immigrants, as well as the general population. 43% have at least some university training and only 23% are without a high school diploma. Foreign credentials are often under recognized, and as result many recent immigrants are upgrading their education. A foreign college diploma appears to maintain its worth, as immigrant college grads are upgrading at a rate similar to the population average. Immigrant university grads however are attending part time schooling at a rate over double that of the general population.



### Immigrant Incomes

Niagara's long term immigrants experience similar employment incomes as the general population. Niagara's most recent immigrants experience a polarization of employment incomes: A greater share than normal are employed in high wage occupations, while a greater share are also employed in low wage occupations. Looking closer, the greatest share of recent immigrants are employed in elemental sales and services, and intermediate sales and services.

### Top Immigrant Occupations

Source: 2001 Census Data, Statistics Canada

1	Elemental Sales & Service	340 (14%)	4	Middle & other Management	190 (8%)
2	Intermediate Sales & Service	300 (13%)	5	Trades & Skilled Transport Operators	175 (7%)
3	Professionals in Natural & Applied Sciences	220 (9%)	6	Clerical Occupations	165 (7%)



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