

Changes in the Demographic Profile of Japanese Canadians between 1941 and 2021

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Takashi Ohki

St. Albert, Alberta, Canada

1. Introduction

This paper describes changes in the demographic profile of Japanese Canadians between 1941 and 2021 using data from the Census of Population of Canada¹. Historical changes in the social and economic profile are also described briefly.

1.1 Major findings

- Canada is a country of immigrants. In 2021, over 401,000 new immigrants arrived in Canada.
- In 2021, 26.5 percent of Canadians were born outside of Canada. In Vancouver and Toronto, one of two Canadians was born outside Canada.
- In 2021, there were 129,430 Japanese Canadians, including 7,065 Japanese with a student or working visa and their families. Japanese Canadians shared 0.36 percent of the total Canadian population.
- Forty-six percent of Japanese Canadians had a single Japanese ethnic or cultural origin, and 54 percent had multiple ethnic or cultural origins. Japanese Canadians had a higher rate of multiple ethnic or cultural origins than Canadians (35.5%).
- Japanese Canadians have a very high inter-ethnic marriage rate. In 2011, the inter-ethnic marriage rate of Japanese Canadians was 78.8 percent, while the inter-ethnic marriage rate of non-visible minority Canadians with visible minority Canadians was 3.9 percent.
- After the Pacific War, the Canadian government continued its restrictive immigration policy against Japan until 1967, when it introduced new immigration regulations. This created a significant gap in the flow of immigrants from Japan to Canada.
- In the post-war period, the number of Japanese Canadians grew faster than the number of Canadians. This was because young Japanese immigrants came to Canada and produced children and grandchildren and because both the descendants of pre-war Japanese immigrants and post-war Japanese immigrants had a high inter-ethnic marriage rate and made multi-ethnic descendants.
- The majority of Japanese Canadians lived in four provinces in
2021: British Columbia 42.2%
- Ontario 32.6%
- Alberta 14.4%
- Quebec 5.8%
- Japanese Canadians are relatively younger than Canadians: relatively more people in the 0 to 14 years group and relatively fewer people in the 55 and over group.

In 2021, the first generation of new Japanese Canadians shared 37 percent of Japanese Canadians. The sum of the first generation of new Japanese immigrants, their children and grandchildren is estimated to share 65 percent of Japanese Canadians.

The descendants of new Japanese immigrants quickly lose Japanese as their mother tongue. In the second generation, 33 percent keep Japanese as their mother tongue, and in the third generation, only 2 percent keep Japanese as their mother tongue.

Japanese Canadians are more educated than Canadians.

Japanese Canadians work in all industries.

The average employment income of Japanese Canadian men was 13 percent higher than that of Canadian men, while the average employment income of Japanese Canadian women was 2 percent lower than Canadian women in 2020.

Over the last 30 years, 75 percent of Japanese immigrants were women, and 62 percent were family-sponsored immigrants.

New Japanese immigrants spend considerable time before they change and become Canadian citizens by naturalization.

1.2 “Japanese Canadians” in the 2021 Census of Population

1.2.1 Ethnic or cultural origin

In the 2021 Census of Population, there were two groups of people we can call Japanese Canadians: the first group was people with Japanese ethnic or cultural origin, and the second group was people belonging to the Japanese visible minority. This report calls the first group of people “Japanese Canadians” and the second group of people “visible minority Japanese.”

The 2021 Census of Canada asked the following question to respondents:

“What were the ethnic or cultural origins of this person’s ancestors?”

The respondents could check a list of ethnic and cultural origins and select one ethnic or cultural origin (single ethnicity) or more than one ethnic or cultural origin (multiple ethnicities). The same question was asked in 2016, 2011 and 2006. In the 2001, 1996, and 1991 censuses, the question was, “To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's ancestors belong?” For the census before 1991, we were still looking for the exact questions asked. We take the number of people with Japanese ancestors and assume they were similar to “Japanese Canadians” in the 2021 census.

Statistics Canada defines “ethnic or cultural origin” as follows:

“Ethnic or cultural origin refers to a person's ancestors' ethnic or cultural origins. Ancestors may have Indigenous origins, origins that refer to different countries or other origins that may not refer to different countries. Often referred to as a person's ancestral “roots,” ethnic or cultural origins should not be confused with citizenship, nationality, language, or place of birth. For example, a Canadian citizen who spoke Hindi and was born in the United States may report having Guyanese ancestry.

Responses to the question of the ethnic or cultural origin on the census reflect respondents' perceptions of their background. Many factors can influence responses over time, including the contemporary social environment, the respondents' knowledge of their family history, and their understanding of and views on the topic.”

Japanese Canadians included Japanese staying in Canada with student visas and working visas and their families (7,065 persons in 2021; 5% of Japanese Canadians) but did not include Japanese with tourist visas.

1.2.2 Generation status and ethnic origin

The 2021 Census of Population included a question on the place of birth of the respondent and parents. The answers to this question were used to determine the generation status of the correspondent:

- The first generation was people who were born outside Canada and immigrated to Canada.
- The second generation was people who were children of the first generation.
- The third and more generations were people whose parents were born in Canada.

Table 1
Number of Japanese Canadians by Generation and Ethnic Origin in 2021

Generation	Single	Multiple	Total	% of Multiple
The first generation	31,915	13,280	48,195	37
The second generation	12,610	26,200	38,810	30
The third and more generations	11,870	30,555	42,425	33
All generations	59,395	70,035	129,420	100

Percent distribution by generation

Generation	Single	Multiple	Total
The first generation	72	28	100
The second generation	32	68	100
The third and more generations	39	61	100
All generations	46	54	100

Source: 2021 Census of Population

Table 1 shows the number of Japanese Canadians in 2021. There were 129 430 Japanese Canadians in Canada, including 7,065 Japanese with a student or working visa and their families. A total of 59,395 had a single Japanese ethnic or cultural origin (46%), and 70, 035 people had a Japanese ethnic or cultural origin and other ethnic or cultural origins.

In the first generation, 72 percent had a single Japanese ethnic or cultural origin, but 28 percent had multiple ethnic or cultural origins. They could be children of a Japanese and non-Japanese couple or have a specific association with a Japanese ethnic or cultural origin. The census data alone cannot tell who they were.

As some people in the first generation (new immigrants) marry non-Japanese Canadians, their children likely answer the census question on their ethnic or cultural origin as people of multiple ethnic or cultural origins, including Japanese ethnic or cultural origin.

Interestingly, the percentage of Japanese Canadians with a single Japanese ethnic or cultural origin in the third and more generation (39%) was slightly higher than that of the second generation (32%). As we explain in the next section, an inter-ethnic marriage rate among Japanese Canadians is very high among Canadians, producing children who could claim multiple ethnic or cultural origins.

Why were there many Japanese Canadians in the third and more generations who claimed that they only had Japanese ethnic or cultural origin? What were the factors that made them claim just Japanese origin?

1.2.3 Ethnic or cultural origins of Canadians

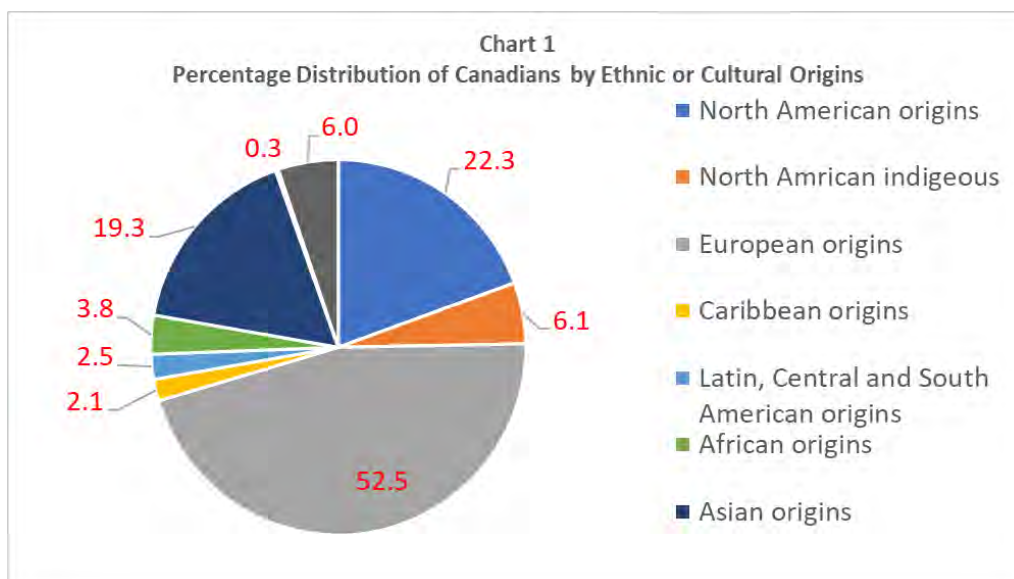
In 2021, Canada's population was 36,328,475. Japanese Canadians shared 0.36 percent of the total Canadian population. Canada is a multi-ethnic country. In 2021, 35.5 percent of Canadians said they had multi-ethnic or multi-cultural origins.

Canada is where first-generation immigrants share a large percentage of the population. In 2021, about 401,000 new immigrants came to Canada: 63 percent were economic immigrants, 20 percent were family-sponsored immigrants, and the rest were refugees and protected immigrants. In 2021, 26.4 percent of Canadians were first-generation immigrants. In other words, one out of four Canadians were born outside Canada. In Vancouver and Toronto, one of two Canadians was born outside Canada. In other G7 countries, the percentage of first-generation immigrants in recent years was 14 percent in the United States, 18 percent in Germany, and 17 percent in the United Kingdom.

Chart 1 shows the percentage distribution of Canadians by ethnic or cultural origins in 2021. There are two things to notice in this chart.

By 2021, European Canadians, the primary group of Canadians until the Second World War, had decreased to less than half (46%) of the Canadian population.

Twenty-five percent of Canadians chose North America as their single ethnic or cultural origin in 2017 (excluding 6.1 percent of Canadians whose ethnic or cultural origin was indigenous North American). Those with North American origin said that they were "Canadian" (16%), "French Canadian" (3%), "Quebecois" (3%), and so on. As immigrants live longer in Canada, they tend to identify themselves as "Canadians." This trend could have happened for Japanese Canadians, but we need to find out the extent of this trend in the Japanese Canadian community.



1.2.4 Visible minority groups

The 2021 Census of Canada had another count of Japanese Canadians. A number of people identified themselves as members of the Japanese visible minority group.

The 2021 Census of Population asked respondents the following question: I

“Is this person:

Mark "x" more than one circle or specify, if applicable.”

- White
- South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)
- Chinese
- Black
- Filipino
- Arab
- Latin American
- Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai)
- West Asian (e.g., Iranian, Afghan)
- Korean
- Japanese
- Other groups — specify:

Information on the visible minority population is required under federal employment equity legislation for programs which promote equal opportunity for everyone. The Census of Population provides benchmark data on each designated employment equity group (women, Indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and the visible minority population).

In 2021, the number of people who reported that they belong to the Japanese visible minority group was 82 percent of those with Japanese ethnic or cultural origins. In the 2021 Census of Population, the Japanese visible minority group was used only for data related to immigration status. The number of people belonging to the visible Japanese minority could be reported as smaller than the number of Japanese Canadians because (1) some of the Japanese Canadians who thought they had Japanese ethnicity or culture did not think they belonged to a visible minority group, or (2) some of them did not answer questions related to their immigrant status.

1.2.5 Inter-ethnic marriage rates

When a person in one ethnic group marries a person in another ethnic group, we call this inter-ethnic marriage. There are several alternative ways to call this type of marriage inter-racial, inter-cultural, and inter-marriage. The federal government of Canada uses the term, mixed union, in its reports.

Table 2 and Chart 2 show the inter-ethnic marriage rates of visible minority groups in 2011. Among the visible minority groups, the Japanese visible minority group had an inter-ethnic marriage rate of 78.7 percent, much higher than any other visible minority group. This rate was for people who said they belonged to the Japanese visible minority. This group was smaller than the number of Japanese Canadians. But as shown in the previous section, the number of people belonging to the Japanese visible minority group was 82 percent of all Japanese Canadians; we can assume that the inter-ethnic marriage rate of Japanese Canadians is about 80 percent².

It should be noted the Japanese visible minority group includes new immigrants after the war and their descendants, implying that the inter-ethnic marriage rate was high among this group too.

Table 2
**Percentage of Inter-ethnic Marriages of Visible Minority Groups
in 2011**

Visible minority group	All couples	Inter-ethnic	Non inter-ethnic
	Number	Percentage	
Japanese	32,820	78.7	21.3
Latin American	112,265	48.2	51.8
Black	167,950	40.2	59.8
Filipino	155,700	29.8	70.2
Arab	94,315	25.4	74.6
Korean	41,370	22.5	77.5
Southeast Asian	74,560	21.9	78.1
West Asian	51,300	19.5	80.5
Chinese	351,640	19.4	80.6
South Asian	407,510	13.0	87.0
Multiple visible minorities ¹	40,415	64.9	35.1
Other Visible minority	27,215	52.4	47.6

Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011, "Mixed Unions in Canada, Catalogue Number 99-010-X2011003

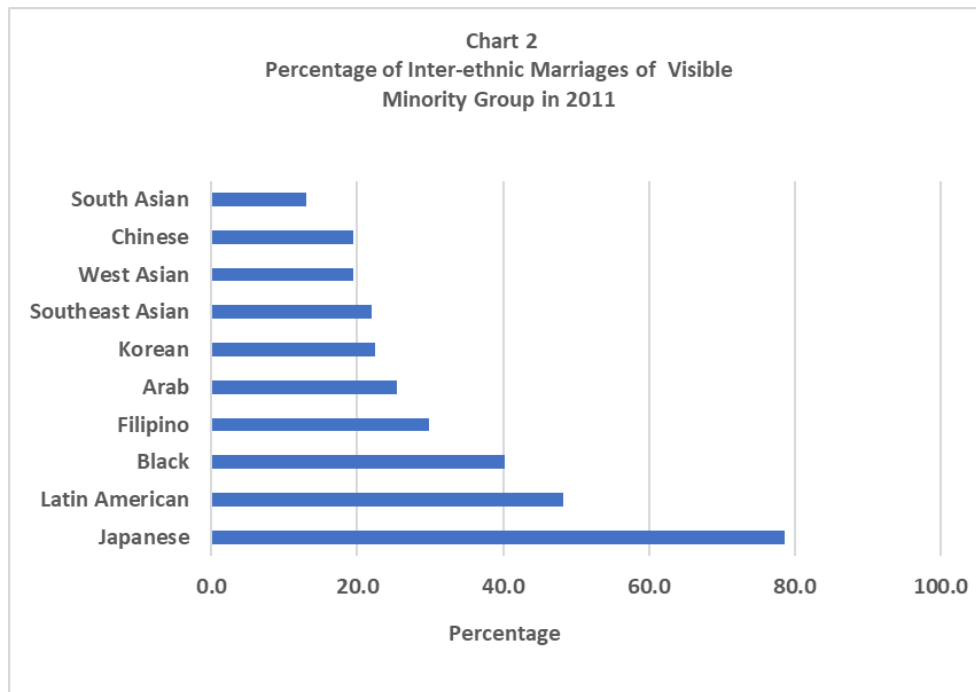


Table 3
**Inter-Ethnic Marriage Rate of Canadians,
 2011**

year	Rate (%)
1991	2.6
2001	3.1
2006	3.9
2011	4.6
Visible x Visible	0.7
Visible x Non-visible	3.9

Source: National Household Survey 2011

Canadians' inter-ethnic marriage rate increased from 2.6 percent in 1991 to 4.1 percent in 2011. In 2021, inter-ethnic marriages between members of one-minority group and members of another minority group (visible x visible) were 0.7 percent, and that between members of one minority group with members of non-visible minority groups (visible x non-visible) was 3.9 percent (see Table 3).

1.2.6 Impact of inter-ethnic marriage on the number of Japanese Canadians

When Japanese Canadians marry non-Japanese Canadians and produce children, they have more Japanese Canadian children in the Census of Canada definition than when Japanese Canadians marry Japanese Canadians. Let us show how this happens in the following examples.

Case A:

A Japanese Canadian (JC) boy marries a JC girl and produces two children.

Case B:

A JC boy marries a non-JC girl and produces two children, and a JC girl marries a non-JC boy and produces two children.

In the intra-ethnic marriage of Case A, one JC boy and one JC girl produce two single ethnic JC children, while in the inter-ethnic marriage of Case B, one JC boy and one JC girl produce four multiple ethnic JC children. Thus, the higher the rate of inter-ethnic marriages in the JC community, the more prominent the number of people claiming to be multi-ethnic or cultural Japanese Canadians will be.

Japanese Canadians, including post-war immigrants, have had a very high rate of inter-ethnic marriage. This has contributed to a high growth rate of Japanese Canadians in the post-war period.

2. Growth of the Japanese Canadian population in the post-Pacific War period

2.1 The return of Japanese Canadians deported to or stranded in Japan to Canada in the post-war period.

In 1941, there were 23,149 persons of Japanese Canadians in Canada, 95.5 percent of them in British Columbia. The Pacific War broke out in December 1945, and the Canadian government carried out the mass evacuation of people of Japanese descent from the protected area within 100 miles of the British Columbia coast to internment camps and self-supporting camps in the interior of British Columbia, road construction camps in British Columbia and Ontario, and sugar beet farms in Alberta, Manitoba, and Ontario, and prisoner of war camps in Ontario.

When the Pacific War ended in August 1945 with Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allies, the Canadian government was forced to consider a postwar policy for treating Japanese Canadians who had been interned during the war in the camps. The policy decided in response to the demands of various anti-Japanese groups, forced all Japanese Canadians to either be "repatriated" to Japan (it should be appropriately termed as deportation since Canadian citizens of Japanese descent could not be repatriated to a foreign country, Japan) or moved east to the Rocky Mountains. When this policy was announced, opposition to repatriation to Japan arose among Canadians who had previously been considered anti-Japanese. As a result, the number of Japanese Canadians who were deported to Japan was fewer than initially planned.

Japanese Canadians were deported to Japan by five deportation ships between June and December 1946. A total of 3,964 deported Japanese Canadians landed in Uruga, Kanagawa Prefecture, by January 1947. The composition of deported Japanese Canadians is shown in Table 4³.

Table 4
Japanese Canadians Deported to Japan

	Number	% distribution
Nationality		
Japanese	1,355	34
Canadians by naturalization	630	15
Canadians by birth	1,979	51
16 and over	658	18
Less than 16	1,321	33
Total	3,964	
Japanese Canadians stranded in Japan	1,688	
16 and over	205	
Less than 16	1,483	

Source: Haraguchi, "Research Note"

In addition to those deported to Japan, there were 37 Japanese Canadians who went to Japan on the Japan-U.S. exchange ship. The breakdown was as follows.

- Most of the 42 returnees from the first exchange ship in 1942 were Japanese nationals, including diplomats, entrepreneurs, merchants, and their families.
- The 61 persons on the second exchange ship in 1943 were 24 Japanese nationals, 20 naturalized Canadians, and 17y minors born in Canada.

Including the 37 Japanese Canadians who went to Japan on these exchange ships, approximately 6,000 Japanese Canadians were living in Japan at the beginning of 1947.

Many deported Japanese Canadians, upon seeing the reality of war-torn Japan, immediately wished to return to Canada, but the Canadian government's firm policy of restricting Japanese immigration

made such a return difficult to achieve. In Canada, the National Japanese Canadian Citizens Association (NJCCA) was formed in September 1947, and representatives of provincial chapters repeatedly petitioned the federal government to allow Japanese Canadians living in Japan to return to Canada.

The NAJC and Japanese Canadians kept asking the federal government to allow them to sponsor their family members in Japan to return to Canada. It took a long time for the Japanese Canadians in Japan to come back to Canada. There was no accurate record of the timing and number of Japanese Canadians who came back to Canada; we can only make some estimates from meagre information on the timing and number of returnees.

When deporting Japanese Canadians to Japan, the federal cabinet created Cabinet Order 7355, which stripped Canadian citizenship from the deported Japanese Canadians. Thus, the deported Canadians used Japanese passports to apply for the status of a family-sponsored immigrant. In other words, Japanese Canadians in Japan asked their relatives in Canada to sponsor them to come back to Canada.

The Canadian government recorded the number of Japanese nationals (including the deported Japanese Canadians returning to Canada) who were granted landed immigrant status in the post-Pacific War period (see Table 5A and 5B).

Table 5A
Number of Japanese Immigrants to Canada, 1945 to 2022

Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number
1945	0	1965	188	1985	205	2005	1,065
1946	1	1966	500	1986	273	2006	1,210
1947	0	1967	858	1987	446	2007	1,250
1948	5	1968	693	1988	346	2008	1,285
1949	11	1969	766	1989	541	2009	1,195
1950	11	1970	797	1990	365	2010	1,165
1951	3	1971	883	1991	492	2011	1,265
1952	6	1972	718	1992	586	2012	1,210
1953	46	1973	1,105	1993	910	2013	985
1954	71	1974	859	1994	956	2014	1,125
1955	97	1975	635	1995	835	2015	995
1956	121	1976	498	1996	1056	2016	1,035
1957	180	1977	412	1997	971	2017	1,085
1958	183	1978	359	1998	1,021	2018	1,035
1959	190	1979	666	1999	1,356	2019	1,115
1960	159	1980	737	2000	1,010	2020	615
1961	114	1981	770	2001	1,090	2021	1,405
1962	134	1982	630	2002	805	2022	885
1963	171	1983	330	2003	815	2023	
1964	140	1984	250	2004	975	2024	

Source Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canadian

Table 5B
Number of Total Japanese Immigrants to Canada, 1946 to 2022

Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number	Year	Number
1945	0	1965	1831	1985	14502	2005	30,416
1946	1	1966	2331	1986	14775	2006	31,626
1947	1	1967	3189	1987	15221	2007	32,876
1948	6	1968	3882	1988	15567	2008	34,161
1949	17	1969	4648	1989	16108	2009	35,356
1950	28	1970	5445	1990	16473	2010	36,521
1951	31	1971	6328	1991	16965	2011	37,786
1952	37	1972	7046	1992	17551	2012	38,996
1953	83	1973	8151	1993	18461	2013	39,981
1954	154	1974	9010	1994	19417	2014	41,106
1955	251	1975	9645	1995	20252	2015	42,101
1956	372	1976	10143	1996	21308	2016	43,136
1957	552	1977	10555	1997	22279	2017	44,221
1958	735	1978	10914	1998	23300	2018	45,256
1959	925	1979	11580	1999	24656	2019	46,371
1960	1084	1980	12317	2000	25666	2020	46,986
1961	1198	1981	13087	2001	26756	2021	48,391
1962	1332	1982	13717	2002	27561	2022	49,276
1963	1503	1983	14047	2003	28376	2023	
1964	1643	1984	14297	2004	29351	2024	

Note: the sum of Japanese immigrants from 1945 to each year.

Table 5B shows the total number of immigrants of Japanese nationality from 1945 to each year. For example, the total number of Japanese immigrants from 1945 to 1951 was 31. The total number of Japanese immigrants from 1945 to 2022 was 49,276. Some 49,276 people might have returned to Japan, moved to other countries, or died by 2022.

The number of immigrants includes Japanese Canadians deported to or stranded in Japan and new Japanese immigrants in the post-war period. There was very little information on when and how many Japanese Canadians deported to Japan or stranded in Japan came back to Canada.

However, there is a few pieces of information (Tatsuo Kage, *Japanese Canadian Expulsion*):

(1) The Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association mentioned in its petition to the federal government that most of the 925 Japanese immigrants from 1946 to 1959 were Japanese Canadians stranded in Japan when the Second World War broke out, and the children of Japanese Canadians who went to Japan with their parents by the Japan-United States Exchange Ship.

(2) On January 13, 1993, the Japanese Canadian Compensation Secretariat announced that "1,337 Japanese Canadians living in Japan applied for personal compensation of the Japanese Canadian redress agreement, and 1,123 of them received the compensation."

(3) Following the 1988 redress agreement on compensation for Japanese Canadians, the Japanese Canadian Compensation Secretariat and the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC) began holding information sessions on individual compensation in Japan in August 1989. Tatsuo Kage accompanied a joint delegation of the Japanese Canadian Compensation Secretariat and the NAJC to Japan and obtained the following information from Kazuyuki Ide, the first president of the Association of Japanese Canadians in Japan, who became the liaison for individual compensation for Japanese Canadians in Japan.

- (a) By 1989, half of the departed Japanese Canadians had returned to Canada.
- (b) As of 1989, about 750 to 1,000 deported Japanese Canadians remained in Japan.
- (c) Between 1949 and 1989, about 800 Japanese Canadians in Japan died.
- (d) As of 1989, about 200 stranded Japanese Canadians remained in Japan.

Based on the above information, we summarize the timing and number of Japanese Canadians in Japan who came back to Canada as follows:

- At the beginning of 1947, there were 5,699 Japanese Canadians in Japan.
- By 1959, a total of 925 of them returned to Canada.
- In 1989, a total of 1,337 Japanese Canadians still lived in Japan.
- By 1989, about 800 Japanese Canadians had died in Japan.
- By 1989, a total of 3,562 Japanese Canadians had returned to Canada.
- $(5,699 - 1,337 - 800 = 3,562)$

2.3 Growth of the Japanese Canadian population in the post-war period

2.3.1 Canada's immigration policy for immigrants from Japan in the post-war period

Immediately after the Pacific War, the Canadian government thought that intense anti-Japanese sentiment existed in Canada and that Japanese Canadians had difficulty assimilating into Canadian society. Based on this perception, the Canadian government adopted a policy of strictly restricting Japanese immigrants. While there were exceptions, this policy was maintained until 1967, when the Canadian government formally abolished discrimination against immigrants based on race and introduced a point system to the immigration regulations.

Table 6A and 6B shows the number of Japanese Canadians, the number of cumulative Japanese immigrants, and the number of Canadians for the census years from 1941 to 2021. For example, the number of cumulative Japanese immigrants in 1961 was the sum of Japanese Canadians from 1941 to 1961.

Table 6A
Number of Japanese Canadians, Japanese Immigrants, and Canadians

Year	Japanese Canadians	Cumulative Japanese Immigrants	Canadians
1941	23,149	0	11,507,000
1951	21,663	31	14,009,000
1961	29,157	1,198	18,238,000
1971	37,255	6,328	21,962,000
1981	40,990	13,087	24,819,000
1991	65,945	16,965	28,037,000
2001	85,230	28,756	30,007,000
2011	109,745	37,786	33,476,688
2021	129,430	48,391	38,226,498

Source: Census of Canada

Table 6B
Average Annual Growth Rates of Population, 1971 to 2021

Year	Japanese Canadians	Cumulative Japanese Immigrants	Canadians
1971 to 1981	1.0	7.5	1.2
1981 to 1991	4.9	2.6	1.2
1991 to 2001	2.6	4.7	0.7
2001 to 2011	2.6	3.5	1.1
2011 to 2021	1.7	2.5	1.3

Canada's population almost doubled from 11.5 million in 1941 to 22.0 million in 1971. This was because many immigrants came to Canada from Europe after the Second World War. They escaped from their home countries devastated by war or political upheavals. For example, between 1945 and 1960, close to 400,000 German immigrants came to Canada, although some returned to Europe or other countries later. Similarly, about half a million Italians came to Canada.

Canada restricted immigrants from Japan in the post-war period until 1967, when it introduced a point system to its immigration regulations. There were only 3,189 Japanese immigrants between 1942 and 1967, and many of them were likely to be Japanese Canadians in Japan returning to Canada sponsored by their relatives in Canada. Compared to German Canadians and Italian Canadians, Japanese Canadians could not increase their population by an inflow of many immigrants immediately after the war.

After 1967 when Canada introduced a point system to its immigration regulations and abandoned race-related restrictions, new Japanese immigrants started coming to Canada and contributed to the growth of Japanese Canadians. The number of Japanese Canadians increased from 28,157 in 1961, when Japanese Canadians mainly were those of the pre-war immigrants and their descendants 37, to 255 in 1971, when new Japanese immigrants joined the pre-war Japanese Canadians.

Since 1981, the number of Japanese Canadians has increased faster than that of Canadians (see 6B).

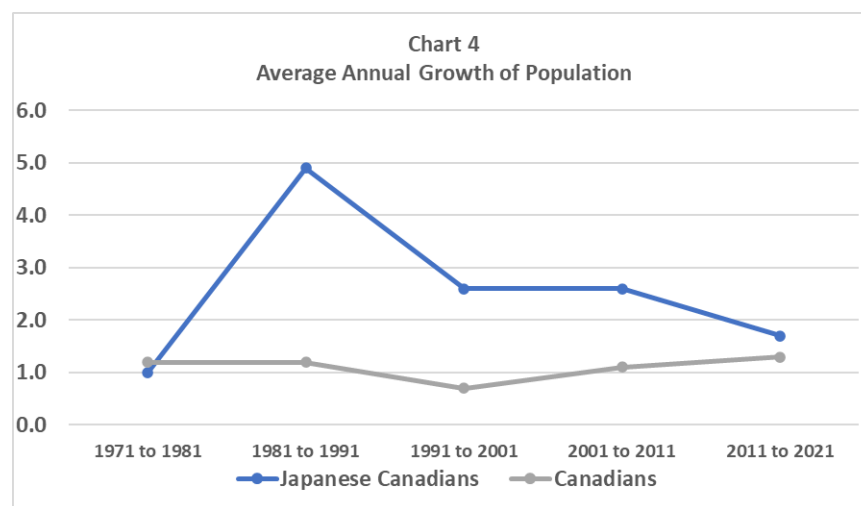
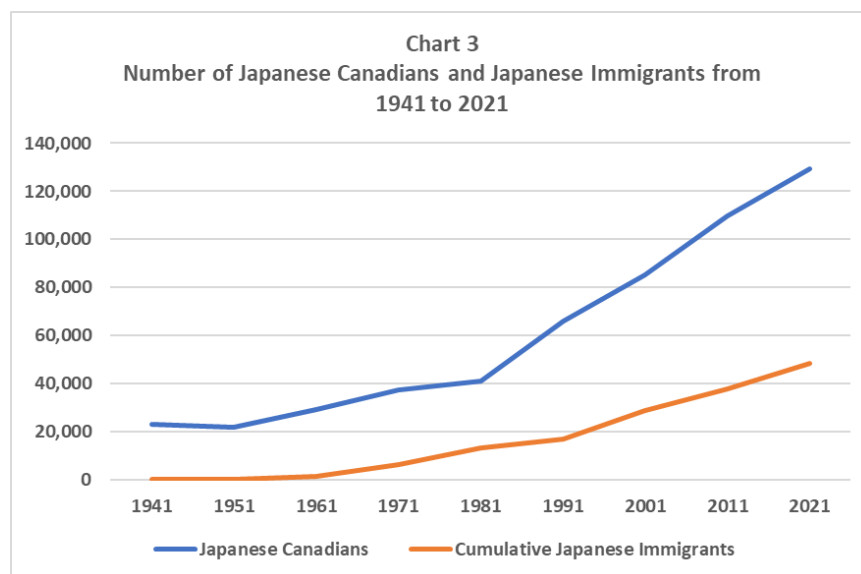


Chart 3 shows that the vertical distance between the blue line (the number of Japanese Canadians) and the brown line (the number of cumulative post-war Japanese immigrants) started widening after 1981. This distance (the number of total Japanese Canadians – the cumulative number of post-war immigrants) was the sum of the pre-war Japanese Canadians and their descendants and the descendants of the post-war Japanese immigrants.

In other words, in the post-war period, the number of Japanese Canadians was a sum of the following elements:

- (1) the number of pre-war immigrants
- (2) the number of descendants of the pre-war immigrants
- (3) the number of post-war immigrants

(4) the number of descendants of the post-war immigrants

The high inter-ethnic marriage rate of Japanese Canadians (both the descendants of the pre-war immigrants and post-war immigrants and their descendants) generated the inter-ethnic marriage effect on the number of multi-ethnic Japanese Canadians and contributed to the high growth of the number of Japanese Canadians in the post-war period.

3. Geographical distribution of Japanese Canadians

3.1 Changes in the provincial distribution of Japanese Canadians between 1941 and 2021

As shown in Table 7A⁴, there were 23,149 Japanese Canadians in Canada, and 95.5 percent were in British Columbia. In 1946, the federal government implemented a policy of deporting 3,964 Japanese Canadians to Japan and dispersing others from British Columbia (BC) to the east of the Rocky Mountains. As a result, the number of Japanese Canadians in BC decreased to 61.0 percent in 1964. On April 1, 1947, the federal government abolished the restrictions on the movement of Japanese Canadians in Canada, and some Japanese Canadians started moving back to British Columbia. But by 1951, only a few Japanese Canadians deported to Japan could return to Canada, and as a result, the number of Japanese Canadians in Canada was 21,663, lower than 23,149 in 1941. The percentage of Japanese Canadians in British Columbia remained at a low level of 33.1 percent.

After introducing a point system to Canada's immigration policy in 1967, new Japanese immigrants started coming to Canada. By 1986, the number of Japanese Canadians had increased to 54,505. This was a result of new immigrants and inter-ethnic marriages of Japanese Canadians. In 1986, the percentage of Japanese Canadians in BC increased to 39.4 percent, and Ontario became another primary centre for Japanese Canadians, taking up 37.8 percent of the Japanese Canadian population. Since 1951, BC and Ontario have remained two significant centres for Japanese Canadians. In 2021, both provinces comprised nearly 75 percent of the Japanese Canadian population. In other words, 3 out of 4 Japanese Canadians lived in BC or Ontario.

Table 7A
Number of Japanese Canadians from 1941 to 2021 by Province

	1941	1945	1946	1951	1961	1971
All provinces	23,149	23,854	24,112	21,663	29,157	37,255
Newfoundland and Labrador	-	-	-	2	3	20
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-	6		15
Nova Scotia	2	1	1	4	28	85
New Brunswick	3	0	10	7	18	40
Quebec	48	532	716	1,137	1,459	1,745
Ontario	234	2,914	3,742	8,581	11,870	15,600
Manitoba	42	1,052	1,052	1,161	1,296	1,335
Saskatchewan	105	157	164	225	280	315
Alberta	578	3,559	3,681	3,336	3,721	4,460
British Columbia	22,096	15,610	14,716	7,169	10,424	13,585
Yukon, N.W.T and Nunavut	41	29	30	35	58	55
Deported to Japan			3,964			
Canadian population	11,507,000	12,072,000	12,292,000	14,009,000	18,238,000	21,962,000

	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021
All provinces	40,990	65,945	85,230	109,745	129,430
Newfoundland and Labrador	25	30	65	75	150
Prince Edward Island	5	35	75	190	250
Nova Scotia	40	310	545	530	1,125
New Brunswick	30	145	235	395	445
Quebec	1,395	2,680	3,210	5,555	7,465
Ontario	16,685	24,380	29,075	37,910	42,250
Manitoba	1,300	1,555	1,920	2,335	2,770
Saskatchewan	205	770	640	985	1,295
Alberta	5,225	8,745	11,945	15,650	18,605
British Columbia	16,040	27,145	37,385	45,895	54,640
Yukon, N.W.T and Nunavut	40	150	135	225	435
Deported to Japan					
Canadian population	24,819,000	28,037,000	30,007,094	33,476,688	38,226,498

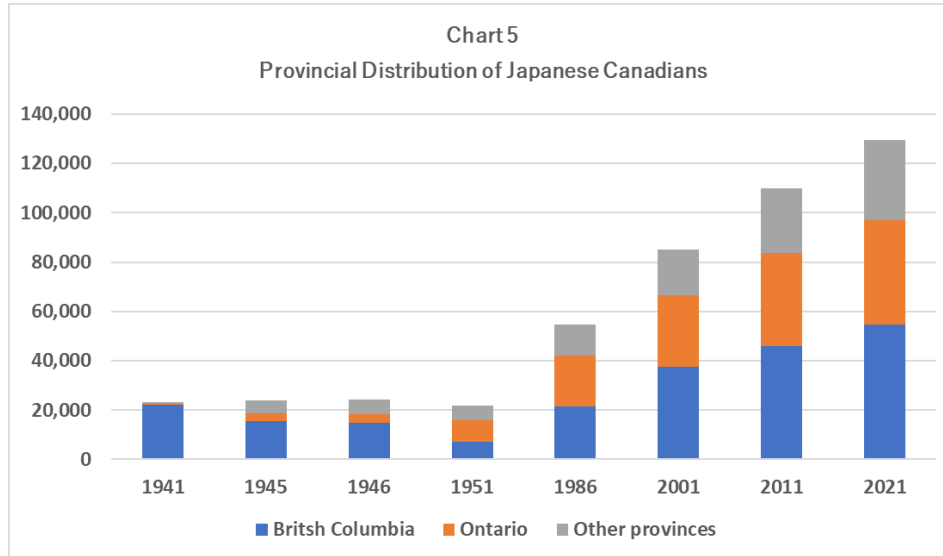
Source: Census of Population

Table 7B

Percentage Distribution

	1941	1945	1946	1951	1961	1971
All provinces	100	100	100	100	100	100
Newfoundland and Labrador				0.0	0.0	0.1
Prince Edward Island				0.0	0.0	0.0
Nova Scotia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
New Brunswick	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Quebec	0.2	2.2	3.0	5.2	5.0	4.7
Ontario	1.0	12.2	15.5	39.6	40.7	41.9
Manitoba	0.2	4.4	4.4	5.4	4.4	3.6
Saskatchewan	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.8
Alberta	2.5	14.9	15.3	15.4	12.8	12.0
British Columbia	95.5	65.4	61.0	33.1	35.8	36.5
Yukon, N.W.T and Nunavut	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Deported to Japan			16.4			

	1981	1991	2001	2011	2021
All provinces	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Prince Edward Island	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Nova Scotia	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.9
New Brunswick	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3
Quebec	3.4	4.1	3.8	5.1	5.8
Ontario	40.7	37.0	34.1	34.5	32.6
Manitoba	3.2	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.1
Saskatchewan	0.5	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.0
Alberta	12.7	13.3	14.0	14.3	14.4
British Columbia	39.1	41.2	43.9	41.8	42.2
Yukon, N.W.T and Nunavut	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Deported to Japan					



3.1 Changes in the number of Japanese Canadians in cities between 1986 and 2021

Table 8 shows the number of Japanese Canadians in major cities in 1986, 1996 and 2021 and the average annual compound growth rate between 1986 and 1996 and between 1996 and 2021. In 1986, Vancouver and Toronto had about 28 percent of Japanese Canadians in Canada, a much larger number of Japanese Canadians than any other cities. By 2021, Vancouver gained a larger share of Japanese Canadians (30.0%), while Toronto decreased its share to 21.0%.

Between 1996 and 2011, the number of Japanese Canadians grew at an average annual compound growth rate of 3.55. Vancouver and Toronto grew slower than the number of Japanese Canadians, while Calgary, Montreal, Edmonton, Victoria, Ottawa, Oshawa, and Windsor grew faster than the number of Japanese Canadians.

Table 8
Number of Japanese Canadians by Cities in 1986 and 2021

Cities	1986	1996	2021	Annual % increase from 1986 to 199	Annual % increase from 1996 to 2021	% of Japanese Canadians in 1986	% of Japanese Canadians in 2021	NAJC members
All Japanese Canadians	54,505	77,120	129,430	5.3	3.5	100.0	100.00	
Vancouver (CMA), B.C.	15,115	24,300	38,950	4.8	3.2	27.7	30.09	X
Toronto (CMA), Ont.	15,030	19,470	27,255	3.4	2.3	27.6	21.06	X
Calgary (CMA), Alta.	2,945	3,875	8,540	8.2	5.4	5.4	6.60	X
Montréal (CMA), Que.	1,890	2,755	5,940	8.0	5.3	3.5	4.59	X
Edmonton (CMA), Alta.	1,940	1,910	4,255	8.3	5.5	3.6	3.29	X
Victoria (CMA), B.C.		1,555	3,805	9.4	6.1		2.94	X
Ottawa - Gatineau (CMA), Ont./Que.	1,020	1,495	3,725	9.6	6.3	1.9	2.88	X
Winnipeg (CMA), Man.	1,545	1,715	2,370	3.3	2.2	2.8	1.83	X
Hamilton (CMA), Ont.	1,535	1,615	2,330	3.7	2.5	2.8	1.80	X
Lethbridge (CMA), Alta.	3,100		1,995			5.7	1.54	X
Kelowna (CMA), B.C.	895		1,955			1.6	1.51	
Kitchener - Cambridge - Waterloo (CMA), Ont.		465	1,520		8.2		1.17	
London (CMA), Ont.		620	1,125		4.1		0.87	
Kamloops (CMA), B.C.	1,340		1,120			2.5	0.87	X
St. Catharines - Niagara (CMA), Ont.			995				0.77	
Oshawa (CMA), Ont.		410	885		5.3		0.68	
Nanaimo (CMA), B.C.			885				0.68	X
Abbotsford - Mission (CMA), B.C.			875				0.68	
Halifax (CMA), N.S.			870				0.67	
Vernon (CA), B.C.	360		575			0.7	0.44	X
Saskatoon (CMA), Sask.			525				0.41	
Chilliwack (CMA), B.C.			525				0.41	
Québec (CMA), Que.			510				0.39	
Thunder Bay (CMA), Ont.		460	395		-1.0		0.31	
Regina (CMA), Sask.		200	380		4.4		0.29	X
Kingston (CMA), Ont.			375				0.29	
Windsor (CMA), Ont.		165	355		5.2		0.27	
Courtenay (CA), B.C.			345				0.27	
Red Deer (CMA), Alta.			325				0.25	
Canmore (CA), Alta.			320				0.25	
Squamish (CA), B.C.			280				0.22	
Peterborough (CMA), Ont.			230				0.18	
Duncan (CA), B.C.			220				0.17	
Whitehorse (CA), Y.T.			220				0.17	X
Charlottetown (CA), P.E.I.			175				0.14	
Medicine Hat (CA), Alta.			165				0.13	
Salmon Arm (CA), B.C.			165				0.13	
Yellowknife (CA), N.W.T.			110				0.08	
Fredericton (CMA), N.B.			95				0.07	
St. John's (CMA), N.L.			90				0.07	

Source: 1986 and 2021 Census of Canada

Note: Blanks mean that data are not readily available.

4. Changes in the age distribution of Japanese Canadians between 1961 and 2021

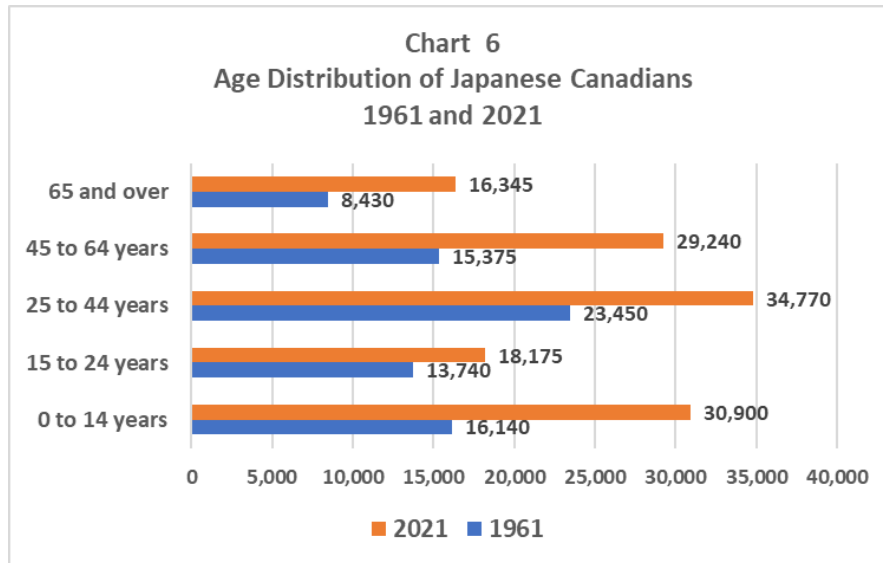
Table 9 shows the age distributions of Japanese Canadians in 1961 and 2021. Over these 60 years, the number of Japanese Canadians increased by 168 percent. The number of people in the age groups 1 to 14 years (191%), 45 to 69 years (190%), and 65 and over (194%) increased faster than the number of Japanese Canadians as a whole.

Table 9
**Age Distributions of Japanese Canadians
in 1961 and 2021**

Age group	1961	2021	% change
0 to 14 years	16,140	30,900	191
15 to 24 years	13,740	18,175	132
25 to 44 years	23,450	34,770	148
45 to 64 years	15,375	29,240	190
65 and over	8,430	16,345	194
Total	77,135	129,430	168

Percentage distribution

Age group	1961	2021
0 to 14 years	20.9	23.9
15 to 24 years	17.8	14.0
25 to 44 years	30.4	26.9
45 to 64 years	19.9	22.6
65 and over	10.9	12.6
Total	100.0	100.0



5. The demographic profile of Japanese Canadians in 2021

5.1 The age-sex distribution of Japanese Canadians in 2021

Table 10
Number of Japanese Canadians by Age, Sex, and Generation Status in 2021

Generation status	Total			First generation			
	Gender	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total - Age		129,430	56,845	72,580	48,190	16,120	32,070
0 to 14 years		30,900	15,930	14,970	3,715	1,815	1,900
15 to 19 years		9,670	4,805	4,860	2,495	1,155	1,340
20 to 24 years		8,505	4,145	4,360	2,585	1,190	1,395
25 to 34 years		16,750	6,925	9,825	7,130	2,395	4,735
35 to 44 years		18,020	6,630	11,395	9,825	2,695	7,130
45 to 54 years		17,485	6,200	11,285	10,420	2,625	7,790
55 to 64 years		11,755	4,995	6,765	4,680	1,330	3,355
65 to 74 years		8,610	3,910	4,695	4,310	1,740	2,575
75 years and over		7,735	3,310	4,430	3,030	1,180	1,850

Generation status	Second generation			Third generation or more			
	Gender	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total - Age		38,810	19,265	19,545	42,425	21,460	20,965
0 to 14 years		15,080	7,785	7,300	12,100	6,330	5,775
15 to 19 years		3,970	2,010	1,960	3,200	1,640	1,560
20 to 24 years		3,030	1,470	1,560	2,890	1,485	1,405
25 to 34 years		3,810	1,810	2,000	5,810	2,715	3,090
35 to 44 years		3,795	1,800	2,000	4,395	2,130	2,265
45 to 54 years		2,700	1,315	1,385	4,370	2,260	2,110
55 to 64 years		1,435	740	700	5,640	2,930	2,710
65 to 74 years		1,250	625	630	3,055	1,555	1,500
75 years and over		3,740	1,715	2,030	965	420	550

Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Canada

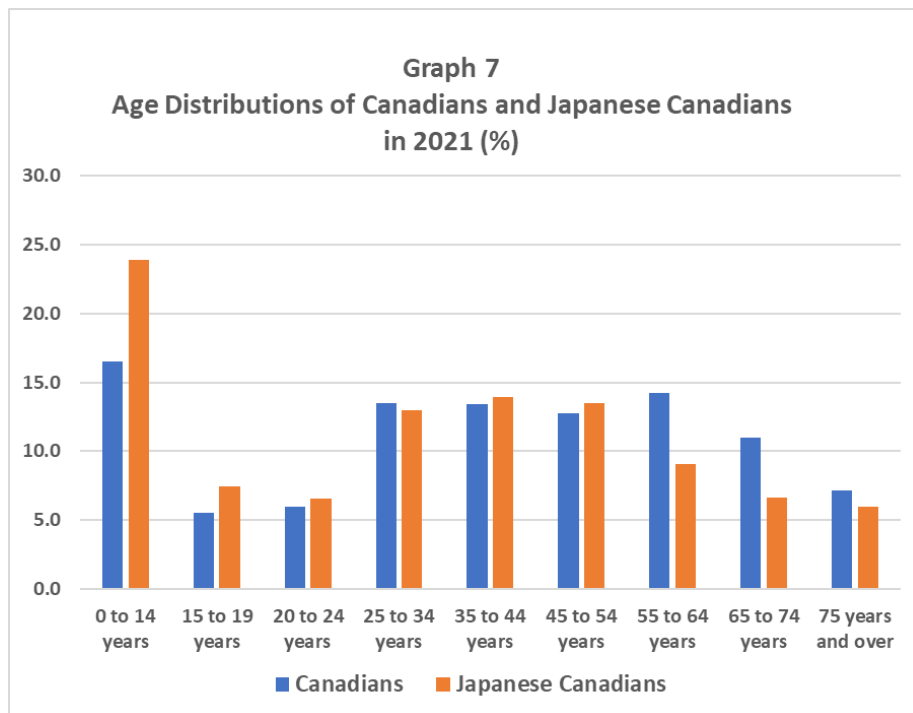


Chart 6 shows the age distributions of Japanese Canadians and Canadians in 2021. The Japanese Canadians had relatively more people in the 0 to 14 age group and less in the 55 to 64, 65 to 74, and over 75 age groups. In other words, the Japanese Canadians were relatively younger than the Canadians. As you see in the section on new Japanese immigrants, this was mainly due to the large number of children and grandchildren of new Japanese immigrants.

5.2 Estimates of the number of new Japanese immigrants, their children and grandchildren in 2021

We use the age distribution of Japanese Canadians by generation status to estimate the number of new Japanese immigrants and their children and grandchildren in 2021. They are rough estimates to indicate the distribution of pre-war Japanese immigrants and their descendants and post-war Japanese immigrants and their descendants in Japanese Canadians in 2021.

Table 11 shows the number of Japanese Canadians by generation status and age group in 2021. The Census of Canada divided the total number of Japanese Canadians into the first, second, and third and more generations. The first generation was the people born outside Canada and immigrated to Canada. The second generation was the people born in Canada, but their parent or parents were born outside Canada. The third and more generations were the people whose parents were born in Canada.

Table 11
Estimates of New Japanese Immigrants and their Children and Grandchildren in 2021

Age group	All generations	The first generation	The second generation	The third and more generations
All age groups	129,430	48190 (41,125)	38810 (29685)	42,425
0 to 14 years	30,900	3,715	15,080	12100 (6,638)
15 to 19 years	9,670	2,495	3,970	3,200
20 to 24 years	8,505	2,585	3,030	2,890
25 to 34 years	16,750	7,130	3,810	5,810
35 to 44 year	18,020	9,825	3,795	4,395
45 to 54 years	17,485	10,420	2,700	4,370
55 to 64 years	11,755	4,680	1,435	5,640
64 to 74 years	8,610	4,310	1,250	3,055
75 and over	7,735	3,030	3,740	965

Source: 2021 Census of Canada

The Japanese Canadians in the first generation are likely to be new Japanese immigrants. A total of only 464 Japanese immigrated to Canada between 1935 to 1941. We assume those who came to Canada in 1941 were 20 years old; they would be 100 years old in 2021. In fact, there were a few pre-war issues over 100 years old in 2023, but for our rough estimate, we can assume that those who were 75 years and over in 2021 were all post-war Japanese immigrants.

In the second generation, those younger than 44 years in 2021 were born in 1977 and earlier. Let us assume that the oldest mother, who had a baby in 1977, was 40. Then this mother was born in 1937. As shown in the previous paragraph, very few Japanese immigrated to Canada between 1935 and 1941. Therefore, we can assume that the people younger than 44 in the second generation were the children of the first generation Japanese immigrants, the new Japanese Canadians.

We assume that women between 20 and 44 are of the child-bearing age. We use the total number of people in the age group in the second, third and more generations as proxies for the number of women in this age group. Then, the distributions of the women in this age group between the second generation and the third and more generations were 45 percent in the second generation and 55 percent in the third and more generations. The number of children under 14 years old in the third and more generations was distributed between the grandchildren of the first generation (6,638) and the grandchildren of the third and more generations of the pre-war Japanese immigrants.

Then, we have:

- The first generation of new Japanese immigrants
- 48,190 (37.2% of total Japanese Canadians)
- The first generation of Japanese immigrants and their children
- 77,875 (60.2% of total Japanese Canadians)
- The first generation of Japanese immigrants, their children and grandchildren
- 84,513 (65.3% of total Japanese Canadians)

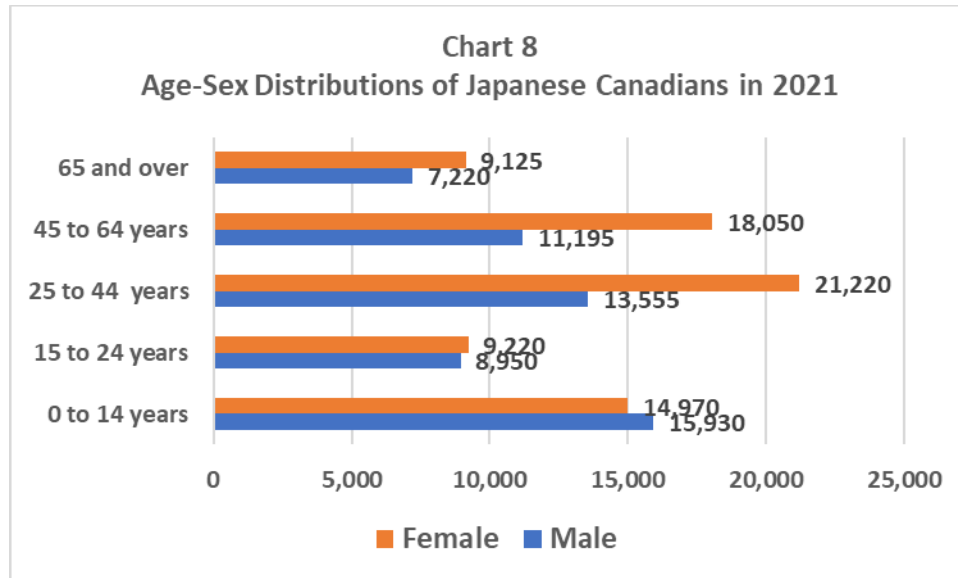
This is just one set of estimates based on specific assumptions. But these estimates show a general pattern of generational change which has been taking place in the Japanese Canadian community. Post-war Japanese immigrants and their children and grandchildren have been replenishing the descendants of pre-war Japanese immigrants. This process of generational change is taking place in all immigrant groups in Canada. But this process has been uniquely taking place in the Japanese Canadian community. Because of the restrictive immigration policy the Canadian government adopted for Japanese immigrants in the post-war period, there was a gap in the flow of new Japanese immigrants in the post-war period. This gap was associated with different experiences in Canada between the descendants of pre-war immigrants and the post-war immigrants and their descendants.

5.3 Age-sex distribution of Japanese Canadians in 2021

Table 12 shows the age-sex distribution of Japanese Canadians in 2021. For Japanese Canadians, the number of women was about 30 percent larger than that of men. This was because the number of women was much higher in two age groups: the 25 to 44 age group (57% more than men) and the 45 to 64 age group (61% more than men). This was because about 70 percent of new Japanese immigrants over the last thirty years were women. This point will be explained in the section on new Japanese immigrants.

Table 12
Age-Sex Distribution of Japanese Canadians in 2021

Age group	Both	Male	Female
0 to 14 years	30,900	15,930	14,970
15 to 24 years	18,175	8,950	9,220
25 to 44 years	34,770	13,555	21,220
45 to 64 years	29,240	11,195	18,050
65 and over	16,345	7,220	9,125
All ages	129,430	56,850	72,585



6. Social and economic profile of Japanese Canadians

6.1 Mother tongue

Table 13 and Chart 7 show the percentage distribution of the mother tongue of Japanese Canadians by generation status in 2021. The statistics in this table are based on people belonging to the Japanese visible minority group.

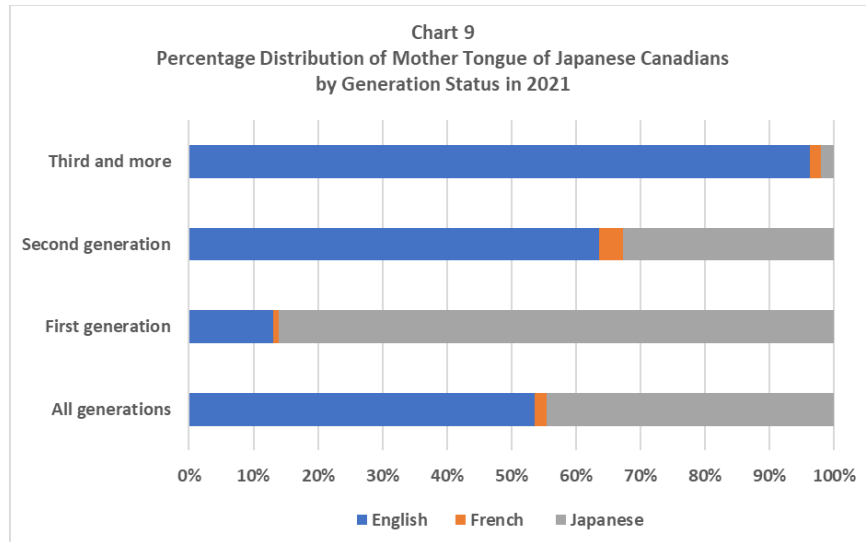
Mother tongue is the first language learned at home in childhood and is still understood by the person when the census is conducted. If the person no longer understands the first language learned, the mother tongue is the second language learned. For a person who knew more than one language at the same time in early childhood, the mother tongue is the language this person spoke most often at home before starting school. The person has more than one mother tongue only if they learned these languages simultaneously and still understand them.

Table 14

**Percentage Distribution of Mother Tongue of
Japanese Canadians by Generation Status in 2021**

	English	French	Japanese
All generations	54	2	45
First generation	13	1	86
Second generation	64	4	33
Third and more	96	2	2

Source: 2021 Census of Population



In the first generation, Japanese was the mother tongue of 86 percent of people. In the second generation, it decreased to 33 percent; in the third generation, it further reduced to 2 percent. Thus, under the current social, economic, and educational environment, new Japanese Canadians lose their Japanese language ability almost entirely in the third generation.

6.2 The highest level of education of Japanese Canadians aged 15 and over in 2016

Table 14 shows the percentage of Canadians and Japanese Canadians aged 15 and over with the highest educational degree in 2026. For both men and women, Japanese Canadians were better educated than Canadians.

Table 15
Percentage Distribution of Japanese Canadians Aged 15 and Over by Level of Education in 2016

	Canadian			Japanese-Canadian		
	Total - Sex	Male	Female	Total - Sex	Male	Female
No certificate, diploma or degree	18.3	19.1	17.6	10.2	12.4	8.7
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate	26.5	26.4	26.5	25.9	26.9	25.2
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	55.3	54.6	55.9	63.9	60.8	66.1
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	9.8	13.6	6.1	4.9	7.3	3.2
Trades certificate or diploma other than Certificate of Apprenticeship or Certificate of Qualification	5.4	6.3	4.6	2.5	2.9	2.2
Certificate of Apprenticeship or Certificate of Qualification	4.4	7.3	1.5	2.4	4.4	1.0
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	19.4	16.6	22.0	19.3	15.7	21.9
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	2.8	2.4	3.3	3.6	2.9	4.1
University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	23.3	21.9	24.5	36.1	35.0	36.9
Bachelor's degree	15.5	14.1	16.9	26.4	24.7	27.7
University certificate or diploma above bachelor level	1.6	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.2
Degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.0	0.7
Master's degree	4.6	4.7	4.6	5.5	5.9	5.3
Earned doctorate [75]	0.8	1.0	0.6	1.3	1.8	0.9

Source: 2016 Census of Population

6.3 Industries where Japanese Canadians worked in 2016

Table 14 shows the percentage distribution of Canadians and Japanese Canadians aged 15 and over by industry where they worked in 2016.

Japanese Canadians worked in a wide range of industries in 2016. But there were some differences in the percentage distribution by industry between Japanese Canadians and Canadians.

There was a more significant percentage of Japanese Canadians than Canadians in the following industries:

- Professional, scientific, and technical services: 10.2% for Japanese Canadians vs 7.3% for Canadians.
- Educational services: 9.7% for Japanese Canadians vs 7.4% for Canadians.
- Accommodation and food services: 12.9% for Japanese Canadians vs 7.0% for Canadians.

There was a smaller percentage of Japanese Canadians than Canadians in the following industries:

- Agriculture: 1.0% for Japanese Canadians vs 2.4% for Canadians.
- Mining, forestry, fishing and hunting (1.1% for Japanese Canadians vs 1.5% for Canadians as a whole)
- Construction: 3.7% for Japanese Canadians vs 7.5% for Canadians.
- Manufacturing: 6.4% for Japanese Canadians vs 8.7% for Canadians.
- Women in health care and social assistance: 15.1% for Japanese Canadians vs 20.1% for Canadians.

6.5 Average employment income of Canadians and Japanese Canadians in 2020

Table 16 shows the average employment income of Canadians and Japanese Canadians (people in the visible Japanese minority group) in the 2020 taxation year.

Table 16
**Average Employment Income of Canadians and Japanese
Canadians in 2020 (\$)**

	Canadians	Japanese Canadians
Men and women	50,280	51,450
Men	58,050	65,800
Women	42,000	41,080

Source: Statistics Canada. 202 Census of Canada, Table 98-10-0439-01 " Employment income statistics by visible minority"

Employment income is all earned wages, salaries and commissions from paid employment and net self-employment income from farm or non-farm unincorporated business and professional practice during the reference period.

The average employment income of Japanese Canadians (\$51,450) was higher than that of Canadians (\$50,280).

The average employment income of Japanese Canadian men (\$65,800) was much higher than that of Canadian men (\$58,050).

The average employment income of Japanese Canadian women (\$41,080) was slightly lower than that of Canadian women (\$42,000).

7. The demographic profile of post-war new Japanese immigrants

7.1 The age distribution of pre-war and post-war Japanese Canadians

We conveniently define "post-war Japanese immigrants" as first-generation Japanese Canadians and their children and grandchildren. We estimated their numbers in 2021 in Section 5.2.

Table 17
Estimates of Post-War Japanese Immigrants in 2021

	Number	Total	% of total
The first generation	48,190	48,190	37.2
Children	29,685	77,875	60.2
Grand children	54,828	84,513	65.3
Total Japanese Canadians	129,430		

In 2021, there were the first generation post-war Japanese immigrants (37.2% of all Japanese Canadians). The sum of the first generation and their children was 77,875 (60.2%), and the sum of the first generation and their children and grandchildren was 84,513 (65.3%). An estimate of pre-war Japanese immigrants and their descendants was (129,430 – 84,513 = 44,917 (34.7% of total Japanese Canadians) in 2021.

7.2 The sex distribution of the first-generation Japanese Canadians

Table 18
People of Japanese Ethnic or Cultural Origin by Generation Status and Sex in 2021

	Total sex	Men	Women
Total	129,430	56,845	72,580
First generation	48,190	16,120	32,070
Second generation	38,810	19,265	19,545
Third and more generations	42,425	21,460	20,965

As shown in Table 18, the number of women in the first generation of Japanese Canadians (new Japanese immigrants) was about twice as large as the number of men in 2021.

The 2021 Census of Population asked Japanese minority people about their periods of immigration to Canada. As shown in Table 19A, 29,930 people answered this question, which was smaller than the first-generation Japanese Canadians (48,190) but can tell us the trend in the sex distribution of

new Japanese immigrants in the post-war period.

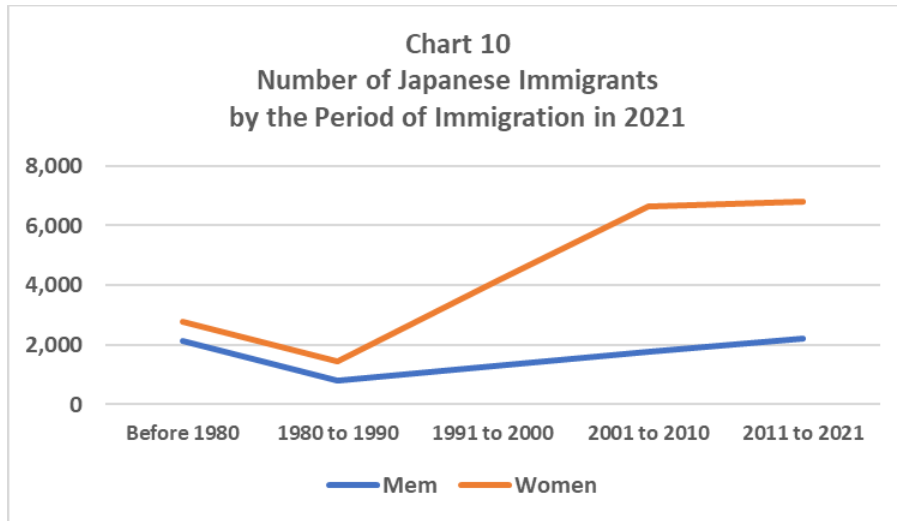
Table 19A
Japanese Visible Minority Immigrants by Period of Immigration and Sex in 2021

Period of immigration	Immigrants	Before 1980	1980 to 1990	1991 to 2000
Total - Gender	29,930	4,925	2,225	5,360
Men	8,200	2,140	795	1,275
Women	21,730	2,785	1,430	4,080
Period of immigration	2001 to 2010	2011 to 2015	2016 to 2017	2018 to 2021
Total - Gender	8,410	4,405	1,800	2,805
Men	1,765	1,080	475	660
Women	6,645	3,325	1,325	2,145

Source: 2021 Census of Population

Table 19B
Percentage distribution

Period of immigration	Immigrants	Before 1980	1980 to 1990	1991 to 2000
Total - Gender	100	100	100	100
Men	27	43	36	24
Women	73	57	64	76
Period of immigration	2001 to 2010	2011 to 2015	2016 to 2017	2018 to 2021
Total - Gender	100	100	100	100
Men	21	25	26	24
Women	79	75	74	76



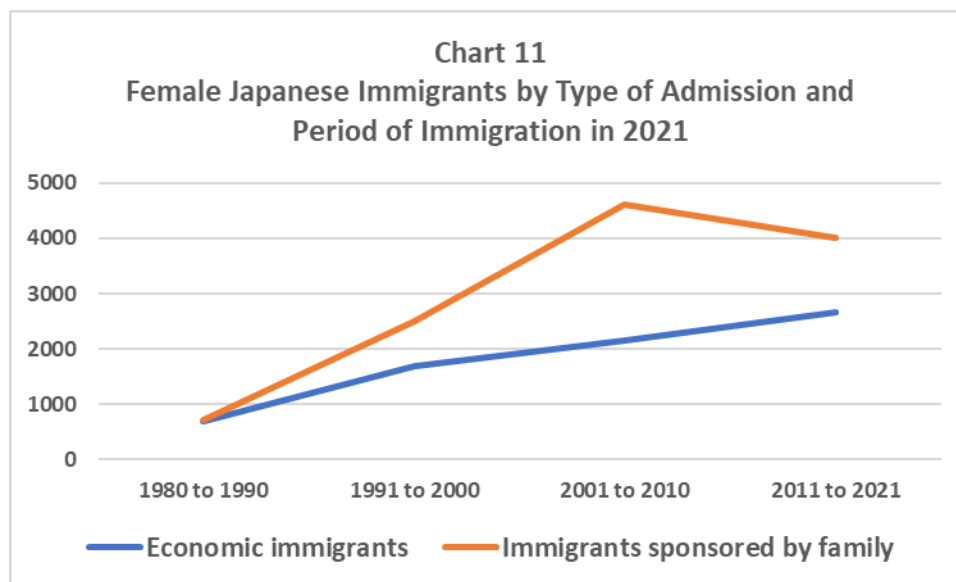
As you see in Table 18B, about 73 percent of Japanese immigrants in the post-war period were women. The dominance of women among Japanese immigrants started in the 1991-2000 period and continued to the 2011-2021 period. Since the 1991 to 2000 period, female immigrants took up about 75 percent of total Japanese immigrants. The distribution of new Japanese immigrants by type of immigration admission

Table 20, Chart 11, and Chart 12 show the distribution of Japanese immigrants who were still in Canada in 2021 by their period of immigration to Canada and the immigration admission category.

Table 20
Percentage Distribution of Japanese Immigrants by Period of Immigration and Admission Category in 2021

Men	1980 to 1990	1991 to 2000	2001 to 2010	2011 to 2021
Economic immigrants	635	1,095	1,415	1,595
Immigrants sponsored by family	140	335	545	540
Others	10	25	50	40
Total	785	1455	2010	2175
% of sponsored	17.8	23	27.1	24.8
women	1980 to 1990	1991 to 2000	2001 to 2010	2011 to 2021
Economic immigrants	690	1,700	2,165	2,660
Immigrants sponsored by family	725	2,510	4,605	4,015
Others	55	50	80	135
Total	1470	4260	6850	6810
% of sponsored	49.3	58.9	67.2	59

Source: 2021 Census of Population



In the context of Canadian immigration, economic and family-sponsored immigrants refer to two different categories of individuals eligible to apply for permanent residency in Canada.

Economic immigrants are selected based on their skills and ability to contribute to the Canadian economy. Canada has programs to attract skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and investors worldwide.

Family-sponsored immigrants are individuals sponsored by a close family member who is a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident. Typically, Canadian citizens and residents sponsor their partners, children, parents, grandparents and members of an extended family. Family sponsorship applications involve demonstrating the genuineness of the relationship and meeting specific eligibility criteria set by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The sponsor must also meet specific financial requirements to demonstrate their ability to financially support the sponsored family member for a particular period.

From 1980 to 1990, the number of economic and family-sponsored immigrants was almost the same for female Japanese immigrants. From 1991 to 2000, family-sponsored became twice as large as economic immigrants for female Japanese immigrants.

Economic immigrants are the majority of male Japanese immigrants over the last 40 years.

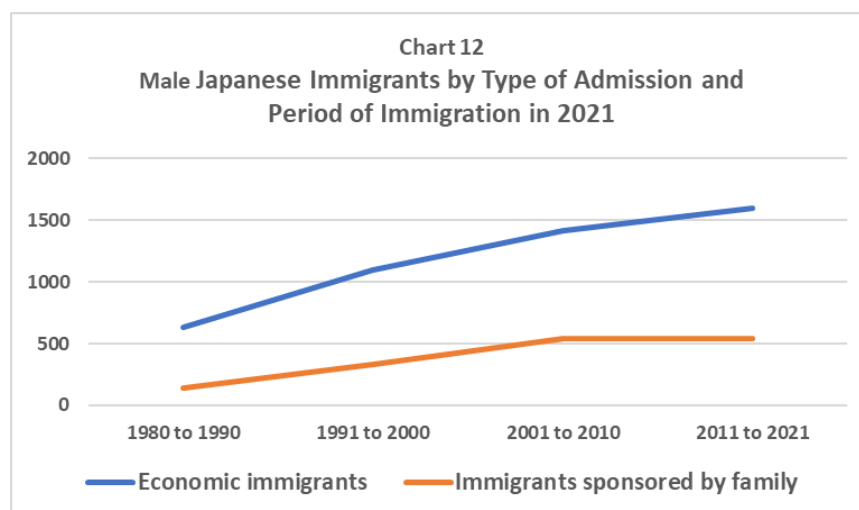


Table 21 shows who were sponsored (males and females) from 2015 and 2022. For this period, 82 percent were sponsored by Canadian spouses or partners. The Census of Population did not tell us if Japanese immigrants had Japanese Canadian spouses or partners or non-Japanese Canadian spouses or partners. My casual observations of first-generation Japanese friends and families attending a local Japanese language school are that most female, first-generation Japanese immigrants have non-Japanese Canadian husbands or partners.

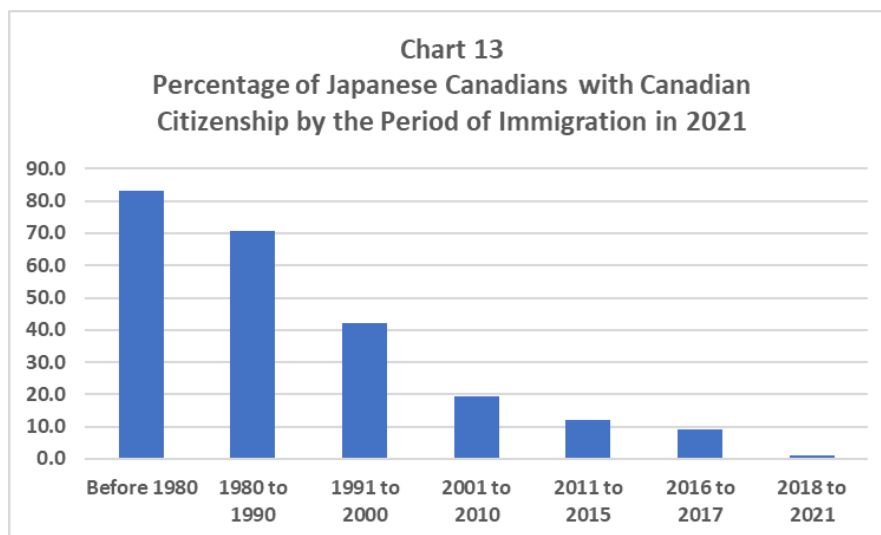
7.3 Canadian Citizenship of New Japanese Canadians

Table 21 and Chart 13 show the timing and number of new Japanese immigrants who changed their immigrant status from permanent residents to Canadian citizens by naturalization.

Table 21
Citizenship Status of Japanese Visible Minority by Period of Immigration in 2021

Citizenship	Total immigrants	Obtained Canadian citizenship	Remain as permanent residents	% of naturalization
Immigrants	29,930	10,285.0	19,645	34.4
Before 1980	4,925	4,090.0	835	83.0
1980 to 1990	2,225	1,575.0	650	70.8
1991 to 2000	5,360	2,265.0	3,090	42.3
2001 to 2010	8,410	1,630.0	6,780	19.4
2011 to 2015	4,405	535.0	3,870	12.1
2016 to 2017	1,800	165.0	1,635	9.2
2018 to 2021	2,805	25.0	2,785	0.9

Source: 2021 Census of Population



New Japanese immigrants had spent considerable time before they changed their immigration status from permanent residents to Canadian citizens by naturalization. Table 12 shows that only 42.3 percent of those who immigrated to Canada from 1991 to 2000 had obtained Canadian citizenship by 2021. The naturalization rate increased as new Japanese immigrants spent more time in Canada. For those who immigrated to Canada before 1980, 83.0 percent had obtained Canadian citizenship by 2021.

Footnotes:

1. The Census of Population

The easiest way to look at the Census of Population is to go to a Statistics Canada’s web site, “Census Data,” [Census Datasets \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/92-626-x/eng/00001.htm) , and choose a census year and topic.

2. Inter-ethnic marriage rates are available in Statistics Canada, “Mixed unions in Canada, “National Household Survey, 2011, Catalogue Number 99-010-X2011003.

3. The number of Japanese Canadians deported to Japan is available in Kunihiro Haraguchi, "Japanese Canadians Who Were “Repatriated” to Japan Immediately after WWII: Issues surrounding Re-Entry to Canada," Japanese Overseas Migration Museum, Research Paper, Volume 13, 2018 (the original is Japanese).

4. Numbers in 1941 to 1946 are from Audrey Kobayashi, “A Demographic Profile of Japanese Canadians and Social Implications for the Future,” September 1989, A report prepared under Contract PCS-8-00374, Department of the Secretary of State, Canada for the National Association of Japanese Canadians.

Appendix

Percentage of Fitr Generation in Major Cities, 2021

Census Metropolitan Area	All	Fist generation	Second generation	Third and more generations	% of firt generation
Canada	36,328,475	9,606,600	6,393,310	20,328,570	26.4
Montréal	4,206,455	1,221,425	721,355	2,263,670	29.0
Québec	817,110	75,430	38,660	703,020	9.2
Hamilton	773,440	218,870	193,760	360,805	28.3
Ottawa - Gatineau	1,464,495	367,930	258,420	838,145	25.1
Toronto	6,142,880	3,172,330	1,721,285	1,249,265	51.6
Winnipeg	819,715	244,190	144,605	430,925	29.8
Calgary	1,465,175	504,270	313,295	647,605	34.4
Edmonton	1,397,750	401,120	278,005	718,630	28.7
Lethbridge	120,495	20,650	23,040	76,805	17.1
Kamloops	110,545	14,520	17,915	78,105	13.1
Vancouver	2,607,015	1,256,395	632,460	718,155	48.2
Victoria	388,470	88,840	83,375	216,255	22.9

Source: 2021 Census of Population

