

TIEDI Newsletter No. 2

Spring 2010

As TIEDI has continued into its second year, we have been rolling out a series of analytical reports based on the data requests shaped by our community partners. I think it's fair to say that work on these reports has taken longer than anticipated, as questions were refined, data was accessed and vetted, conclusions were carefully considered, and reports written. However, we now have 9 reports published and 19 more are in the pipeline. In addition, we have released 21 fact-sheets based on rapid data requests from community partners. Working hard on all of these publications are Maryse Lemoine, our coordinator, and our student analysts Nina Damsbaek, Fang Yang and Ann Marie Murnaghan. Special thanks go to Nina and Ann Marie for their work this year, as both will be graduating and moving on.

We are keen to have your feedback on the reports, since their ultimate purpose is to assist our community partners in their work, whether it relates to advocacy, program planning or policy making. One of the things we are working on this summer is to find more visually accessible ways of presenting data than the basic tabulations we are currently using. If you have suggestions or requests on this or other issues, please do get in touch.

As TIEDI enters its third (and final) year, we are examining new ways to mobilize data. We have recently subscribed to monthly updates of the Labour Force Survey and will start releasing an immigrant labour force report as new data comes in. We are also planning to do further mapping work if that proves useful to our partners. Do let us know if there are other ways we can assist you.

In order to discuss TIEDI's final year, we will be holding a knowledge exchange forum at the end of June (further details to follow soon). This forum will have several objectives - we will be presenting some of the findings from existing reports, and seeking your input for the project's future directions; we will also incorporate into the forum workshops on mapping and accessing public data. Further information about the forum will be circulated on the listserv very soon, and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in June!

Philip Kelly
Principal Investigator, TIEDI

In this issue :

Introductory remarks	1
TIEDI reports	2
Talking up TIEDI	2
Training on census data	3
TIEDI in the news	3
Fact sheets	4
New datasets	4
Meetings	5
Local Immigration Partnerships	5
Public lecture	5

A PDF version of this newsletter is available at www.yorku.ca/tiedi/doc/Newsletter2.pdf

TIEDI publishes reports based on data requests

TIEDI has now answered almost all of the data requests gathered at its first workshop on the labour market outcomes of immigrants. Nine reports have been published until now, and more are coming up.

- *Do levels of savings brought to Canada affect labour market outcomes for immigrants?* Nov. 2009.
- *Do immigrant class and gender affect labour market outcomes for immigrants?* January 2010.
- *Are immigrant earnings affected by the size of their employer?* January 2010.
- *How do gender and country of birth affect labour market outcomes for immigrants?* January 2010.
- *What are the labour market outcomes for immigrants planning to work in regulated and unregulated occupations?* February 2010.
- *Does self-reported English and French speaking ability affect labour market outcomes for immigrants?* February 2010.
- *Are immigrant wages affected by the source of job search information?* March 2010.
- *What are the labour market outcomes for university-educated immigrants?* March 2010.
- *Does returning to school after immigration affect labour market outcomes for immigrants?* March 2010.

Reports are available online at <http://www.yorku.ca/tiedi/pubreports.html>

Talking up TIEDI / Conference presentations

Internationally educated health professionals, December 2-3, 2009

Maryse introduced the services offered by TIEDI at the Knowledge Fair.

Social Planning Toronto, March 1, 2010

John presented findings on the labour outcomes of immigrants by immigrant class, gender and country of birth.

2010 National Metropolis Conference, March 18-21, 2010

Members of the TIEDI team presented a number of sessions based on TIEDI findings.

- Valerie Preston. Plenary session on the colour of discrimination
- Valerie Preston. Immigrants' labour market incorporation: the need for a gendered analysis of research and policy
- John Shields. Immigrant and ethnoracial dimensions of job search and job satisfaction: findings from the 2005 Workplace and Employee Survey.

TIEDI organizes a training session on free Census data

Peter Pathinather, Program Manager at Statistics Canada, gave a presentation on how to find free Census data on July 30th, 2009. The hands-on training took place at York University and covered basic concepts for understanding and finding census data. Peter also talked about how to navigate the Statistics Canada website.

There were 22 participants, plus John, Philip, Maryse from TIEDI who were there to help (and learn too!).

Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive: all participants said that the training had been useful, including 68% who said that the training had been very useful.

Handouts and exercises have been posted on the TIEDI website at: <http://www.yorku.ca/tiedi/events.html>



TIEDI in the news

John discussed findings from TIEDI reports on OMNI TV:

- Summary of findings from the report on labour outcomes by savings brought to Canada. Aired on the South Asian news cast on Dec. 8 & 9, 2009.
- Discussion of the report on labour outcomes by immigrant class and gender. Aired on the South Asian news cast on Jan. 18 & 19, 2010.

TIEDI reports and fact sheets were reproduced in the *Research Capsules: Selected Expert Research on Foreign Credential Recognition in Canada* prepared by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and distributed at the Metropolis conference in March 2010.

The Research Capsule is available at: http://canada.metropolis.net/thebridge/pdfs/thebridge_CIC_e_vol2_11.pdf

TIEDI publishes fact sheets based on rapid data requests

TIEDI offers a Rapid Data service through which our partner organizations can make well-defined data requests. Most data requests are published as short fact sheets that include statistical tables and analysis. Fifteen TIEDI Fact Sheets have been produced since June 2009:

- Intended destination of immigrant engineers in Ontario
- Occupations of skilled workers principal applicants, 2005
- Settlement patterns of recent immigrants (map)
- Highest certificate, diploma or degree of immigrants, 2006
- Savings brought to Canada by country of origin
- Immigrants planning to work as managers and supervisors, 2000-2005
- Immigrants planning to work in the Red Seal Trades, 2000-2005
- Occupations of recent immigrants with university education, 2006
- Immigrants planning to work in the health care sector
- Immigrants planning to work as:
 - Specialist physicians
 - General practitioners and family physicians
 - Registered nurses
 - Medical laboratory technicians
 - Medical radiation technologists
- Overview of Statistics Canada data products for neighbourhood data

New datasets

International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey (IALSS)

TIEDI has recently been granted access to the 2003 IALSS, the Canadian component of the international Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey. The main purpose of the survey is to find out how well adults use printed information to function in society. Survey data include background information (demographic, immigrant status, education, language, labour force, occupation, income, etc.). Respondents are tested in four domains: prose and document literacy, numeracy and problem-solving. Data from the IALSS allow more reliable comparisons among respondents than when language skills are self-reported.

Labour Force Survey (LFS)

TIEDI now has access to the LFS through Statistics Canada Research Data Centres. The Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment which are among the most timely and important measures of performance of the Canadian economy. Data on immigrants has been included in the LFS since March 2006, but data on immigrants is only accessible through custom orders or Research Data Centres.

Census Public use microdata file (PUMF)

Statistics Canada has recently made available the PUMF for the 2006 Census. The PUMF includes 2.7% of respondents from the full census and allows researchers to create tables and analysis without having to deal with confidentiality issues. This is a welcome addition to the other Census products to answer data requests at the province and city levels.

Meeting to discuss other data initiatives

Philip, Lucia and Maryse from TIEDI met with Ted Hildebrandt (Director of Social Planning for the Regional Municipality of Halton), Ron Jaros (Planning Manager for the Region of Peel), and Harvey Low (from the Social Development Finance & Administration Division, Social Policy Analysis & Research Section, City of Toronto) to discuss our respective data projects.

Following this meeting, TIEDI expanded its website to include links to the data resources of municipal and regional government around the GTA, <http://www.yorku.ca/tiedi/demographic.html>

Local Immigration Partnerships (LIPs)

TIEDI has been in contact with the LIPs since Fall 2009, when they were established.

In early 2010, TIEDI held a meeting with 3 delegates from the York Region Municipal Government LIP to discuss their data needs and data collection activities.

Maryse attended the Inter-LIP meeting on March 23, 2010 to present a selection of Statistics Canada products that can meet the data needs of the LIPs.

TIEDI members and the CERIS Data Committee Chair also met with CIC representatives in early April to discuss some of the issues faced by LIPs with regards to accessing comparable neighbourhood data.

John presented findings from TIEDI reports to an all LIP-table on the labour market on April 14, 2010.

Our collaboration with the Local Immigration Partnerships continues on an ongoing basis.

TIEDI moved!

Since early September 2009, we are now located in the York Research Tower, the brand new York building that is also housing the Archives of Ontario.

This is the view from the new TIEDI offices:

We can even see the CN Tower and the lake!



Public lecture on Labour Activism and Immigrant Rights

This public lecture will be given by Dr Nik Theodore at York University. Dr Theodore is a leading scholar on urban labour issues in the United States and is Director of the Center for Urban Economic Development, University of Illinois, Chicago. Several York scholars will act as discussants on Dr Theodore's presentation: Dr Mark Thomas, Dr Steve Tufts, and Dr Leah Vosko.

Date: Friday June 11th, 2-4pm

Location: York Research Tower, 5th Floor