

August 2009

QUESTION: What is the amount is savings brought by immigrants when immigrating to Canada, by country of origin?

ANSWER:

Top countries of origin	<u>% Arrived with no savings</u>		<u>Average savings (in \$2005)</u>		Total N
	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Afghanistan	91.4	85.1	\$4,800		2,350
China	4.7	8.9	\$31,800	\$43,000	25,040
India	29.2	47.1	\$20,300	\$28,700	20,980
Iran	18.5	37.1	\$44,400	\$48,000	3,620
Pakistan	7.7	29.4	\$22,000	\$28,800	6,170
Philippines	28.2	20.3	\$17,900	\$18,400	11,040
Sri Lanka	34.0	67.9	\$18,400	\$21,600	3,040

Among immigrants who arrived between 2000 and 2001, immigrants from China were the least likely to arrive in Canada without savings (4.7% of men and 8.9% of women), while immigrants from Afghanistan were the most likely to land without savings (91.4% for men and 85.1% for women).

Among immigrants who did bring in savings, immigrants from Afghanistan also had the lowest average savings (\$4,800). Immigrants from Iran had the highest average savings on landing, followed by immigrants from China. Immigrants from India, the Philippines, Pakistan and Sri Lanka had similar (none of the differences were significant).

On average, immigrant women brought in more savings than immigrant men. The only exception was for immigrants from Afghanistan and the Philippines (although the differences were not significant).

NOTES:

The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada included immigrants who meet all of the following criteria: arrived in Canada between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2001; were age 15 years or older at the time of landing; and had landed from abroad. Individuals and refugees claiming asylum who had applied and landed from within Canada were excluded from the survey.

DATA SOURCE:

Statistics Canada. 2009. *Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada* (master file). Using York University Research Data Centre (distributor). Released in 2007. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4422&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2> (Accessed July 2009) Accompanying documentation: LSIC codebook.

“While the research and analysis are based on data from Statistics Canada, the opinions expressed do not represent the views of Statistics Canada.”