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Canadian Centre for Justice  
Statistics Profile Series



# Visible Minorities in Canada

This paper is one in a series of ten profiles funded through the federal Policy Research Initiative. The objective of these profiles is to provide data analysis on the experience of various groups as victims and offenders\* in the criminal justice system.

The profiles are based on Statistics Canada sources and include a mix of demographic, economic and justice data as well as information specific to each group.

**Other profiles in this series include:**

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- Canadians with Disabilities
- Canadians with Literacy Problems\*\*
- Canadians with Low Incomes
- Children and Youth in Canada
- Immigrants in Canada
- Religious Groups in Canada
- Seniors in Canada
- Women in Canada

\* Data on offenders is only available for the following: Aboriginal People, Children and Youth, Seniors, and Women.

\*\* The literacy profile does not include a criminal justice component.

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# Visible Minorities in Canada

## Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Visible Minorities<sup>1, 2</sup>

### **A growing population**

Visible minority people constitute a diverse and growing population in Canada.<sup>3</sup> In fact, the number of people in a visible minority has doubled in the past 10 years, largely because of increasing immigration from countries outside Europe. In 1996, the visible minority population in Canada numbered 3.2 million (see Table 1), up from 2.5 million in 1991 and 1.6 million in 1986. As a result, people in a visible minority currently make up 11% of the total Canadian population, compared with 9% in 1991 and 6% in 1986.

The visible minority population itself comes from many different cultural backgrounds. In 1996, about two-thirds of all people in a visible minority group in Canada were Chinese (27%), South Asian (21%), or Black (18%). At the same time, 8% were Arab or West Asian, 7% were Filipino, 6% were Latin American, 5% were Southeast Asian, 2% were Japanese and 2% were Korean, while 2% belonged to other visible minority groups and another 2% belonged to more than one visible minority group.

As with the overall population, women make up slightly more than half of the total visible minority population. In 1996, 51% of all persons in a visible minority were female. Women, however, account for quite different shares of the various visible minority groups. For example, 58% of the Filipino and 53% of the Japanese populations in 1996 were female, whereas only 45% of Arabs or West Asians and 49% of South Asians were women.

### **Most people in a visible minority are immigrants**

The large majority of the visible minority population living in Canada are immigrants. In fact, almost seven out of ten (68%) people in a visible minority living in Canada in

1996 were immigrants, while 27% were born in Canada and 3% were non-permanent residents.

Latin Americans are the most likely visible minorities to be immigrants. As of 1996, 76% of Latin American people living in Canada were immigrants, as were 75% of Southeast Asians and Filipinos, and 74% of the Chinese and Arab or West Asian communities. In contrast, only 55% of Blacks and 21% of Japanese were immigrants.

Many visible minority immigrants are very recent arrivals to Canada. One in four (24%) people in a visible minority living in Canada in 1996 arrived in Canada between 1991 and 1996, while another 22% arrived between 1981 and 1990. In contrast, just 22% had come to this country in the years before 1980. Those in the Arab or West Asian, Filipino, Chinese, and Latin American visible minority groups are particularly likely to be recent arrivals in Canada. Around three out of ten people in each of these groups arrived in this country between 1991 and 1996, whereas this was the case for only 6% of Japanese.

Much of the recent growth in the size of the visible minority population in Canada can be traced to the shift in the number of immigrants coming from different countries. In the 1950s, for example, upwards of 80% of immigrants were from Europe. By 1996, however, just 17% of immigrant arrivals were European in origin. In contrast, there has been a substantial increase in the share of immigrants coming from Asia. In 1996, over half (54%) of all immigrants arriving in Canada were from Asia, whereas Asian immigrants accounted for 5% or less of immigrants during the 1950s. In fact, the seven countries from which the largest number of immigrants came to Canada in 1996 were all Asian. That year, Hong Kong and China accounted

for 11% each of all immigrants arriving in Canada. As well, India accounted for 10%, followed by Taiwan and the Philippines (6% each), Pakistan (4%), and Sri Lanka (3%). At the same time, there have also been increases in the proportion of immigrants coming from the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Africa in recent years. In 1996, 8% of immigrant arrivals were from the Caribbean or Central and South America, while 7% came from Africa.

<sup>1</sup> This profile provides descriptive socio-demographic and criminal justice characteristics associated with the visible minority population. It does not however, account for the possibility that some additional factors, such as sex, disability, immigrant status and low income status may also be correlated with visible minority status. For more information on these additional factors, please refer to the other profiles in this series.

<sup>2</sup> Data for the socio-demographic component of the visible minority profile are drawn from Statistics Canada's Census of Canada.

<sup>3</sup> Persons considered to be in a visible minority as defined for employment equity purposes include persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour. The visible minority population includes those reporting themselves as Chinese, South Asian, Black, Arab/West Asian, Filipino, Southeast Asian, Latin American, Japanese, Korean and Pacific Islander.

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### ***A highly concentrated population***

As reflects the overall settlement pattern of immigrants to Canada, the majority of visible minorities in Canada live in either Ontario or British Columbia. In 1996, nearly three-quarters of all people in a visible minority lived in either Ontario (53%) or British Columbia (21%), whereas these two provinces combined accounted for only a little over half the total Canadian population. The visible minority communities make up relatively large shares of the populations in both Ontario and British Columbia. In Ontario, 16% of all residents in 1996 were members of a visible minority group, while the figure was 18% in British Columbia.

The visible minority population tends to live in highly populated urban areas. In 1996, 94% of all people in a visible minority resided in one of Canada's census metropolitan areas (CMAs), compared with just 62% of the non-visible minority population. In addition, three-quarters of the visible minority population live in one of Canada's three largest CMAs. In 1996, 42% of all this population resided in Toronto, while 18% were in Vancouver, and 13% were in Montreal. As a result, the visible minority population makes up a relatively large proportion of the total population of many Canadian cities. The visible minority population, for example, comprised 32% of all residents of Toronto and 31% of those in Vancouver in 1996, while they accounted for 16% of people in Calgary, 14% in Edmonton, and 12% in both Ottawa and Montreal.

However, there is considerable variation in the settlement patterns of the different groups in the largest urban areas. For example, almost half (49%) of South Asians living in Canada in 1996 resided in Toronto, while another 17% were in Vancouver. There was a similar pattern among Filipinos, 42% of whom lived in Toronto and 18% lived in Vancouver. At the same time, 39% of Chinese lived in Toronto and 32% were in Vancouver. Toronto was also home to almost half (48%) of

Blacks that year, although the second largest concentration of this group lived in Montreal (21%). Arab or West Asians were also most likely to live in either Toronto or Montreal, with about 30% living in each city.

### ***The visible minority population is relatively young***

People in a visible minority are younger, on average, than other Canadians. In 1996, for example, 24% of the visible minority population was under age 15, versus 20% of non-visible minorities. At the same time, 16% of visible minority people, compared with 13% of other people, were aged 15-24. In contrast, seniors make up a relatively small share of the visible minority population. People in the visible minority population were only half as likely as the rest of the population to be aged 65 or older in 1996 (6% versus 12%).

### ***Most live with members of their family***

As with other segments of the population, the large majority of people in a visible minority live with their immediate families. In 1996, 89% of this population aged 15 and over lived with members of their family, a figure considerably higher than that for other Canadians (83%). That year, 54% of visible minority Canadians were living with their spouse or common-law partner, 6% were lone parents and 7% were living with other relatives, while the remainder were children still living at home with their parents. In contrast, relatively few people in a visible minority live alone. In 1996, only 6% of all people in a visible minority aged 15 and over, versus 12% of their non-visible minority counterparts, lived on their own.

### ***Most speak English or French***

The vast majority of the visible minority population can speak at least one of Canada's official languages. In 1996, 91% of all people in a visible minority reported that they could carry on a conversation in either English or French or both. That year, 76% spoke English only, while 4% spoke French only and 10% could speak

both. At the same time, however, 9% of people in a visible minority could not conduct a conversation in either official language.

### ***A well-educated population***

A relatively large proportion of the visible minority population has a university degree. In 1996, 19% had a university degree, compared with 13% of their non-visible minority counterparts. At the same time, 14% of people in a visible minority, versus 9% of the rest of the population, had attended, but had not completed, a university program.

People in a visible minority with a university degree are nearly twice as likely as other graduates to have studied in science or engineering programs. They are also somewhat more likely than other graduates to have completed a degree in health-related professions, sciences and technologies, while they were less likely to have graduated from other programs, especially education-related programs.

### ***Most young in school***

A relatively large proportion of the young visible minority population is attending school. Between September 1995 and May 1996, 88% of people aged 15-19 in a visible minority were attending school either full-time or part-time, compared with 81% of non-visible minority teenagers. Similarly, among those aged 20-24, 64% of people in a visible minority were enrolled in some form of educational program, versus less than half (45%) of their non-visible minority counterparts.

### ***Employment levels lower among the visible minority population***

People in a visible minority are generally less likely than other Canadians to be employed. Among men aged 15-64, for example, 65% of those in a visible minority were part of the paid work force in 1996, compared with 74% of other men in this age range. Similarly, only 53% of visible minority women, versus 63% of other women, were employed that year.



Among the various visible minority groups, Filipinos aged 15-64 are considerably more likely to be employed than those in other groups. In 1996, 72% of Filipinos in this age range were employed, whereas the figure in the other groups ranged from 65% among Japanese to 52% among Arab and West Asians.

### **Unemployment higher among visible minorities**

Despite the fact they have relatively high educational qualifications, people in a visible minority experience considerably greater levels of unemployment<sup>4</sup> than other Canadians. Among labour force participants aged 15-64, 14% of those in a visible minority were unemployed in 1996, compared with only 10% of non-visible minorities.

As with the overall population, young people in a visible minority have particularly high unemployment levels. In 1996, 23% of visible minority people aged 15-24 were unemployed, compared with 17% of non-visible minority people in this age range. At all ages, though, people in a visible minority experience higher levels of unemployment than their non-visible minority counterparts.

There is considerable variation in rates of unemployment among those aged 15-64 in the different visible minority groups. In 1996, 20% of Latin Americans, 19% each of Blacks and Arab or West Asians, along with 17% of both Southeast Asians and 15% of South Asians were unemployed, compared with 8% of Filipinos and just 7% of Japanese.

### **Relatively low average incomes**

People in a visible minority have relatively low incomes. In 1995, the average annual income from all sources of the visible minority population aged 15 and over was around \$20,200, almost \$6,000 less than the figure for the rest of the population, who had an average income of \$25,800 that year.

As with the non-visible minority population, the incomes of visible minority women are less than those of their male counterparts. In 1995, women in a visible minority had an average income from all sources of \$16,600, about 70% the figure for male visible minorities. Both visible minority men and women, however, had incomes considerably below those of their respective counterparts in the non-visible minority population.

Among visible minority groups, the Japanese have considerably higher incomes than those in other groups. In 1995, Japanese people had an average income of almost \$30,000, over \$8,000 more than the South Asian population, which had the next highest figure. In contrast, both Blacks and Arab or West Asians had incomes of only about \$19,000 that year, while figures were around \$17,000 for Koreans and \$16,000 for Latin Americans.

People in a visible minority generally obtain a slightly smaller proportion of their total income from government transfer payments than the rest of the population. In 1995, 13% of the income of the visible minority population came from transfer payments, compared with 14% of that of other people.

### **One in three have incomes below the Low Income Cut-offs<sup>5</sup>**

People in a visible minority are nearly twice as likely as other people to have low incomes. In 1995, 36% of the visible minority population had incomes below Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-offs, compared with 18% of other Canadians.

Young people in a visible minority are particularly likely to live in a low-income situation. In 1995, 43% of visible minority children under the age of 15 and 39% of those aged 15-24 were classified as being in a low-income situation. In fact, the low-income figure for visible minority children was more than double that for non-visible minority children under the age of 15 (20%), while that for visible

minority women aged 15-24 (41%) was close to twice that for their non-visible minority counterparts (24%).

As well, the incidence of low income among the visible minority population varies considerably by group. In 1995, around half of both Arab or West Asians (51%) and Latin Americans (50%) were living in low income situations, as were nearly half of Blacks, Koreans, and Southeast Asians. At the other end of the scale, just 18% of Japanese and 24% of Filipinos were living with low incomes.

## **Visible Minorities and the Criminal Justice System<sup>6</sup>**

### **Visible minorities more likely to be victims of personal theft than violent crime**

According to the 1999 General Social Survey (GSS) (see Box 1), 26% of visible minorities living in

<sup>4</sup> The unemployed include those who are not working for pay or profit, but who are looking for employment.

<sup>5</sup> Families or individuals fall below Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-offs if they spend, on average, at least 20 percentage points more of their pre-tax income than the Canadian average on food, shelter, and clothing. Using 1992 as the base year, families and individuals with incomes below the Low Income Cut-offs usually spend more than 55% of their income on these items and are considered to be in straitened circumstances. The number of people in the family and the size of the urban or rural area where the family resides are also taken into consideration. Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-offs, however, are not official poverty lines. They have no officially recognised status as such, nor does Statistics Canada promote their use as poverty lines.

<sup>6</sup> Data provided in the criminal justice section of the profile have been drawn from the 1999 General Social Survey. The reader is cautioned that these data have not been adjusted to account for differences in age, period of immigration, or other characteristics of visible minorities and other persons in Canada.

**Box 1:  
The General Social Survey**

Statistics Canada, as part of the General Social Survey Program, conducts a survey on criminal victimization every 5 years. The most recent survey was conducted in 1999, and involved telephone interviews with approximately 26,000 people, aged 15 and older, living in the 10 Canadian provinces. Similar to previous surveys, all respondents were asked about their experiences with criminal victimization, and their opinions on a variety of justice related topics including their fear of crime, and their perceptions about the performance of the police, criminal courts, and prison and parole systems.

For the first time in the GSS victimization series, respondents were asked to self-identify their cultural or racial background. Whether or not respondents belong to a visible minority group was determined using the criteria outlined in the *Employment Equity Act*. The *Act* defines visible minorities as 'persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour'. The visible minority population includes the following groups: Chinese, South Asian, Black, Arab/West Asian, Filipino, Southeast Asian, Latin American, Japanese, Korean and Pacific Islander.<sup>7</sup>

It is important to note that the GSS data are estimates. They are based on information collected from a sample of the population and are therefore subject to sampling error. The GSS analysis uses the coefficient of variation (CV) as a measure of the sampling error. Any estimate with a CV of more than 33.3% is considered unreliable and is not published. When the CV of the estimate is between 16.6% and 33.3%, the symbol '†' is used. These estimates should be used with caution.

Canada were victims of household or personal crime one or more times in the previous year. Rates of victimization among men and women in the visible minority population were virtually the same (27% and 25% respectively).

In total, visible minorities in Canada were victimized in approximately 483,000 incidents of personal crime. This translates into a rate of 195 per 1,000 persons in a visible minority (see Box 2). Of these incidents, 237,000 were violent crimes, (which includes sexual

assault, assault and robbery), and 246,000 involved personal theft.

These rates do not differ remarkably from the general population. However, Canadians in a visible minority were more likely to report being victims of personal theft than a violent crime whereas the reverse was true for the non-visible minority population (see Figure 1).

**Reporting to police similar for visible minorities and non-visible minorities**

Persons in a visible minority group are no more or less likely than the general population to have their victimization incidents reported to the police. Approximately one third of crime incidents were reported to the police, regardless of the victim's visible minority background.

Visible minorities were satisfied with the actions that the police took in 59% of incidents. This proportion was similar for non-visible minorities.

<sup>7</sup> For more information about the derivation of the visible minority variable, refer to: *Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division 1998. Visible Minority and Population Group (User Guide: 1996 Census Metadata Product). Ottawa: Statistics Canada.*

**Box 2: Offence types**

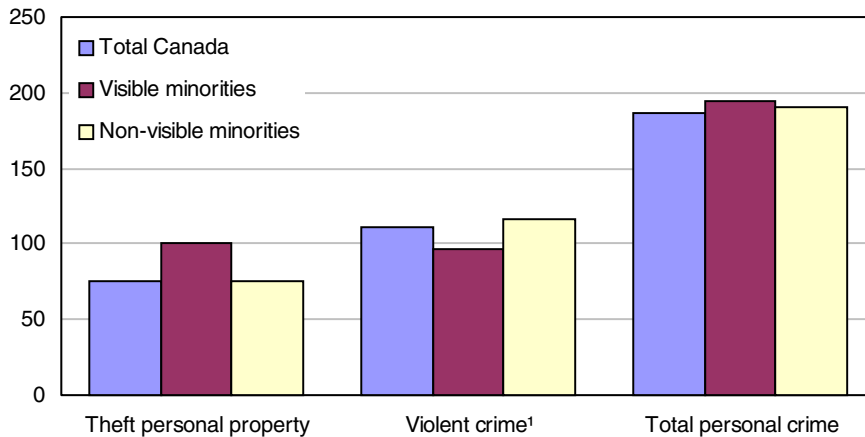
The 1999 GSS measured the incidence of personal and household victimization looking at eight offence types, based on the *Criminal Code* definitions for these crimes. Detailed analysis of the visible minority population only takes into account the four personal offences since for personal crimes, it is an individual who is victimized. For household crimes, it is all members of the household who are victimized. Rates of personal offences are calculated per 1,000 persons aged 15 and older.

Crime category	Offence	Description
Personal crimes	Violent crimes	
	Sexual assault	Forced sexual activity, an attempt at forced sexual activity, or unwanted sexual touching, grabbing, kissing or fondling.
	Robbery	Theft or attempted theft in which the perpetrator had a weapon or there was violence or the threat of violence against the victim.
	Assault	An attack (victim hit, slapped, grabbed, knocked down, or beaten), a face-to-face threat of physical harm, or an incident with a weapon present.
	Theft of personal property	Theft or attempted theft of personal property such as money, credit cards, clothing, jewellery, a purse or a wallet. (Unlike robbery, the perpetrator does not confront the victim.)

Figure 1

**Visible minorities more likely to be victims of theft of personal property**

Rate per 1,000 population



<sup>1</sup> Includes sexual assault, assault and robbery as well as incidents of spousal physical and sexual assault.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.

is lower than in other areas in Canada (see Table 2). Approximately 54 percent of visible minorities reported that they believed that crime was lower in their neighbourhood, 27 percent felt it was about the same, and 9 percent thought it was higher than other Canadian areas.

When asked if they thought crime in their neighbourhood had changed over the past five years, 27 percent indicated that it had increased, 8 percent thought it had decreased, while the majority of visible minority persons in Canada, 49 percent, thought it had remained the same. These observations were similar for male and female respondents and were also similar to those of the non-visible minority population.

**Visible minorities somewhat more fearful**

While the 1999 General Social Survey measured incidents of victimization, it also examined fear and safety levels as well as perceptions of the justice system. Regardless of their cultural background or visible minority status, the majority of people living in Canada (approximately 90%) reported being somewhat or very satisfied with their overall safety from crime. However, when asked about specific activities, such as walking alone, using public transportation, and being home alone at night, persons in a visible minority group were somewhat more fearful than were other Canadians.

While the majority of the population that walked alone in their neighbourhood at night reported feeling very or reasonably safe, visible minorities were somewhat less likely to say this was so (83% compared with 90%) (see Table 3). Similarly, for those who engaged in these activities, persons in a visible minority were slightly more likely than non-visible minorities to state they felt very worried when using public transportation alone, and to be somewhat or very worried when alone at home in the evening. Consistent with the findings of

**Box 3: Hate Crime**

For the first time in the victimization series, the 1999 GSS asked victims if they believed that the criminal incident they experienced was motivated by hate. If they stated yes, they were asked to identify the motivating factor(s), including the offender's hatred of their sex, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, culture or language. A respondent could provide more than one response to the aforesaid categories.

In-depth analysis of hate crime incidents must be restricted to personal crimes when looking at victim characteristics because a household crime is committed against every member of the household and not all may possess the same characteristics. For the four personal crimes, approximately 4% were reported by the victim as hate motivated. This proportion is highest for the crime of assault, whereby 11% are motivated by hate. Among the hate crimes reported, the most common reason given by victims was their race or ethnicity (43%).

The risk of hate crime victimization was more than 2 times greater for visible minorities over non-visible minorities. These proportions translate to an estimated personal crime victimization rate of 19 per 1,000 visible minority persons and 7 per 1,000 non-visible minority persons.

For more information on the measurement and prevalence of hate crime in Canada, see: Janhevich, Derek E. 2000. *Hate Crime in Canada: An Overview of Issues and Current Data Sources*. Integration and Analysis Program, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Both persons in a visible minority and not in a visible minority provided the same reasons for not reporting a criminal incident to the police. The incident was either dealt with another way or it was not important enough to the respondent to report.

**Visible minorities and non-visible minorities believe crime in their neighbourhood is lower than other areas in Canada**

The majority of Canadians in both the visible minority and the non-visible minority populations believe that crime in their neighbourhood



previous literature,<sup>8</sup> women were much less likely to report feeling safe when engaging in these activities and this was true in both the non-visible minority and visible minority populations.

### **Visible minorities satisfied with their local police**

As with the non-visible minority population, the majority of the visible minority population was satisfied with the job being done by their local police force (see Table 4). More than half of the visible minority population reported that the police were doing a good job of enforcing the laws (54%), of being approachable and easy to talk to (54%), and of ensuring the safety of citizens (53%). Just under half stated that the police were doing a good job of providing information on reducing crime (42%), and of responding promptly to calls (41%).

Although visible minorities largely reported satisfaction with their local police, they were somewhat more critical of the police than were non-visible minority respondents. For example, approximately 54% of visible minorities believed their local police to be approachable and easy to talk to as compared to 68% of non-visible minorities.

A small proportion of the visible minority population indicated that they had contact with the police during the year prior to being surveyed. Approximately 10% had contact with the police for a public information session, 12% for a traffic violation, 13% as a victim of crime, 6% as a witness of crime, and 8% for another reason. These rates of police contact were similar to that of the non-visible minority population.

It is notable, however, that visible minorities who reported having been in contact with the police in the past 12 months, either as victims or witnesses of crime, were more critical of the police than were those who did not have such

contact. Although the majority of persons in a visible minority who had contact with the police as a crime victim or witness stated that the police were doing a good job, there were a number of those that believed the opposite to be true.

Visible minorities who had contact with the police as a crime victim or witness were approximately three times more likely than those without police contact to say that the police did a poor job of enforcing the laws, responding promptly to calls, and being approachable and easy to talk to. Further, they were two times<sup>†</sup> more likely than those without police contact to report that the police did a poor job of ensuring the safety of its citizens.

### **Visible minorities less critical of the courts than non-visible minorities**

Approximately 12% of visible minorities in the population reported having had contact with the criminal courts at some point in their lives. This was higher for men (14%) than for women (9%). It is notable that half as many persons in a visible minority than non-visible minority reported having had contact with the Canadian criminal courts.<sup>9</sup>

The visible minority population in Canada, like the non-visible minority population, was more critical of the Canadian courts than they were of the police. Less than 25% of the visible minority population stated that the courts were doing a good job of providing justice quickly, helping the victim, and in determining if the accused was guilty. A slightly higher proportion (34%) believed that the courts did a good job of ensuring a fair trial for the accused. There were no noteworthy differences in perceptions of the court system by the respondent's sex or self-reported cultural background, but overall, visible minorities were less critical of the courts than were non-visible minorities.

### **Visible minorities and non-visible minorities critical of the prison and parole systems**

Visible minority groups in Canada, like the non-visible minority population, tended to be more critical of the prison and parole systems than the police and courts. Approximately 23 percent stated that the prison system did a good job of supervising offenders, and 14 percent believed that the system of parole did a good job of supervising parolees. Further, only 18 percent expressed the belief that the prison system did a good job of helping offenders to be law-abiding, and even fewer, approximately 14 percent, stated that the parole system did a good job at releasing offenders who were not likely to commit another crime.

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<sup>8</sup> See Besserer and Trainor (2000)

<sup>†</sup> The coefficient of variation is between 16.6% and 33.3%.

<sup>9</sup> Contact with the criminal court could include being a crime victim or witness, the accused, or serving on a jury.

Table 1

**Selected characteristics of people in visible minority groups, 1996**

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Qc	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta	B.C.	Yuk.	N.T.	Nun.
<b>Total population (000s)</b>	3,197.4	3.8	1.5	31.3	8.0	434.0	1,682.0	77.4	26.9	269.3	660.5	1.0	1.5	0.2
<b>As % of the total provincial population</b>	11.2	0.7	1.1	3.4	1.1	6.2	15.8	7.0	2.8	10.1	17.9	3.3	3.8	0.6
<b>% aged</b>														
Less than 25	40.6	42.4	47.7	46.6	42.7	42.6	40.4	42.6	44.4	41.4	38.8	44.5	37.4	29.0
25-44	35.2	32.5	22.4	30.4	32.6	35.7	35.8	32.9	33.2	34.4	34.2	31.5	43.0	48.4
45-64	18.2	18.9	25.7	17.4	18.6	16.7	18.0	18.7	17.2	17.8	19.8	20.5	17.5	..
65 and over	6.0	5.9	4.3	5.4	6.1	5.0	5.8	5.7	5.2	6.2	7.2	..	..	..
<b>% immigrant</b>	68.1	48.0	49.5	28.9	40.0	67.2	69.7	63.8	58.7	65.3	68.7	57.0	65.2	61.3
<b>% recent immigrant<sup>1</sup></b>	24.1	18.0	11.4	12.3	12.3	23.4	24.9	15.4	19.5	18.4	26.7	15.0	22.5	..
<b>Knowledge of official languages (%)</b>														
English only	76.1	89.0	83.6	90.2	76.9	21.8	85.0	88.8	87.2	85.3	82.4	87.5	88.4	83.9
French only	4.4	..	..	..	2.2	31.0	0.3	0.1	..	0.1	0.1	..	..	..
Both	10.2	8.5	15.1	7.6	17.9	38.8	6.4	5.7	6.3	5.0	4.0	9.0	7.9	..
Neither	9.4	2.4	..	2.2	2.9	8.4	8.3	5.4	6.4	9.6	13.6	..	3.6	..
<b>% speaking a non-official language in the home</b>	49.4	26.3	23.7	16.4	19.0	49.4	46.3	42.6	39.6	49.3	61.1	37.6	35.8	..
<b>% living with families<sup>2</sup></b>														
Aged 15-64	89.5	86.6	89.8	86.9	85.9	85.6	90.1	89.4	86.2	90.5	90.5	92.9	..	..
65 and over	86.3	82.6	76.9	76.2	71.1	81.4	86.4	88.4	84.8	87.3	88.6	..	..	..
Total <sup>3</sup>	91.8	89.2	91.4	89.9	88.7	89.0	92.2	91.9	89.7	92.6	92.4	94.9	..	..
<b>% with university degree</b>	19.4	42.3	28.4	21.0	26.4	19.2	19.6	19.2	25.9	18.8	18.6	21.9	25.8	..
<b>% with less than grade 9</b>	11.4	7.4	7.7	11.2	10.0	14.5	9.9	10.8	10.4	12.9	12.8	12.6	7.9	..
<b>% of population aged 15-24 attending school</b>	75.9	84.1	79.0	72.8	76.3	76.9	76.8	72.6	74.7	73.1	74.7	77.5	69.2	..
<b>% aged 15-64 employed</b>														
Men	64.6	62.7	68.1	59.3	68.7	54.6	65.6	70.3	70.1	72.2	64.9	75.7	83.0	84.6
Women	53.0	48.4	61.4	47.6	52.6	42.8	53.6	63.1	60.9	60.6	53.5	74.3	78.3	83.3
Total	58.6	55.7	63.9	53.3	61.4	48.7	59.3	66.7	65.6	66.3	59.0	76.6	80.2	87.5
<b>% self-employed<sup>4</sup></b>														
Men	14.1	18.5	31.1	19.7	15.1	12.7	12.9	10.0	17.7	14.4	18.1	15.0	16.9	..
Women	7.6	15.5	15.6	7.6	11.0	6.7	6.8	5.4	13.1	8.3	9.6	..	..	..
Total	11.1	17.5	23.7	14.2	13.4	10.1	10.0	7.8	15.7	11.6	14.0	14.2	12.8	..
<b>% employed full-time, full-year</b>														
Men	51.9	60.1	48.8	47.9	51.9	47.2	54.8	53.2	52.2	51.7	47.3	41.3	89.6	..
Women	43.0	39.6	34.6	40.2	38.0	38.6	46.3	44.5	38.4	40.8	38.1	45.8	78.1	..
Total	47.7	50.7	41.9	44.3	46.1	43.4	50.8	49.1	46.0	46.6	42.9	43.8	84.4	..
<b>% unemployed</b>	14.2	15.6	13.9	15.7	14.7	22.4	14.1	10.0	8.5	9.2	12.2	..	5.3	..
<b>Average income(\$)</b>														
Men	23,635	38,608	28,478	23,122	26,774	19,429	24,609	21,715	27,120	23,876	23,764	23,034	37,046	42,414
Women	16,621	19,073	13,396	15,206	13,280	13,744	17,657	15,063	15,842	15,343	16,554	22,981	24,380	39,064
Total	20,158	29,641	20,847	19,136	20,650	16,713	21,146	18,409	21,749	19,639	20,148	23,009	30,617	40,836
<b>% income from employment sources</b>	80.1	83.4	81.3	73.7	79.8	73.5	81.9	83.2	80.9	81.1	78.2	87.9	87.0	..
<b>% income from government transfer payments</b>	12.8	8.7	12.0	16.8	14.1	19.6	12.2	11.5	9.8	11.7	11.3	8.0	10.0	..
<b>% with low income<sup>5</sup></b>	35.9	24.3	28.1	37.9	34.2	52.2	34.3	31.3	30.0	31.7	32.0	..	..	..

<sup>1</sup> Includes immigrants who arrived between 1991 and 1996.<sup>2</sup> Includes people living with members of their extended family.<sup>3</sup> Includes people of all ages.<sup>4</sup> Includes people in incorporated and unincorporated businesses. Does not include unpaid family workers.<sup>5</sup> Includes unattached people as well those living in families.

.. Figures not available

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada.

Table 2

**Perceptions of crime among the visible minority population aged 15 and older, 1999**

	Visible minority population 15+	
	(000's)	%
<b>During the last 5 years, has crime in your neighbourhood...</b>		
Increased	657	27
Decreased	190	8
Stayed the same	1,199	49
Don't know/Not stated	429	17
<b>Compared to other areas in Canada, is crime in your neighbourhood ...</b>		
Higher	230	9
About the same	674	27
Lower	1,342	54
Don't know/Not stated	229	9

*Note: Figures may not add to total due to rounding.*

*Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.*

Table 3

**Feelings of safety from crime by visible minority status<sup>1</sup>, 1999**

	% of population	
	Visible minority population	Non-visible minority population
<b>While waiting for/using public transportation alone after dark, how do you feel about your safety from crime?</b>		
Not at all worried	51	54
Somewhat worried	39	39
Very worried	9	7
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
<b>How safe do you feel from crime when walking alone in your area after dark?</b>		
Very safe	33	45
Reasonably safe	50	45
Somewhat or very unsafe	16	10
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
<b>While alone in your home in the evening or at night, how do you feel about your safety from crime?</b>		
Not at all worried	74	80
Somewhat worried	22	18
Very worried	3	2
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
<b>In general, how do you feel about your safety from crime?</b>		
Very satisfied	33	46
Somewhat satisfied	56	46
Somewhat dissatisfied	5	4
Very dissatisfied	2	2
Don't know/Not stated	--	--

<sup>1</sup> Includes only respondents who engaged in these activities.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

*Note: Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.*

*Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.*

Table 4

**Perceptions of the justice system among the visible minority population aged 15+, 1999**

	Visible minority population 15+									
	Total	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know/ Not stated	Total	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know/ Not stated
	(000s)					%				
<b>What kind of job are your local police doing at ...</b>										
Being approachable?	2,475	1,342	515	151	467	100	54	21	6	19
Ensuring the safety of citizens?	2,475	1,311	754	150	260	100	53	31	6	11
Enforcing the laws?	2,475	1,337	741	157	240	100	54	30	6	10
Supplying information on reducing crime?	2,475	1,033	734	304	405	100	42	30	12	16
Responding promptly to calls?	2,475	1,014	518	180	763	100	41	21	7	31
<b>What kind of job are criminal courts doing at ...</b>										
Ensuring a fair trial for the accused?	2,475	832	781	228	634	100	34	32	9	26
Determining the guilt of the accused?	2,475	538	853	388	696	100	22	35	16	28
Helping the victim?	2,475	537	752	544	641	100	22	30	22	26
Providing justice quickly?	2,475	516	790	613	556	100	21	32	25	23
<b>What kind of job is the prison system doing at ...</b>										
Supervising/controlling prisoners?	2,475	559	611	436	870	100	23	25	18	35
Helping prisoners become law-abiding?	2,475	450	625	458	942	100	18	25	19	38
<b>What kind of job is the parole system doing at ...</b>										
Releasing offenders who are not likely to re-offend?	2,475	340	689	683	763	100	14	28	28	31
Supervising offenders on parole?	2,475	380	589	600	906	100	15	24	24	37

*Note: Figures may not add to total due to rounding.*

*Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.*