

Visible Minority Unemployment in Canadian CMA's

Jack Jedwab
 May 19, 2008
 Part 2

In this second part of the study on visible minorities and unemployment in Canada we focus on the situation in Canada's major immigrant receiving cities. In sum we examine the differences in rates of unemployment amongst the white and visible minority populations. As observed below when it comes to the gap in unemployment between white and visible minority immigrants Montreal has the widest gap compared to the other major immigrant receiving cities with Arab and South Asian immigrants possessing the highest levels of unemployment. Ottawa and Toronto are next in this regard with the immigrant Black group with the highest rate of unemployment in Ottawa followed by the Arab minority. In Toronto it is the immigrant Arab minority followed by the South Asian population with the highest rates of unemployment.

Table 13
 Rate of Unemployment for immigrants in selected Canadian CMA's, 2006

Unemployment Rate	NVM Immigrants	VM Immigrants	Difference	Chinese	South Asian	Black	Latin American	Arab
Canada	5,1	8,2	-3.1	7,3	8,3	9,7	8,5	13,5
Montréal	8,4	13,2	-4.8	9,8	15,3	13,2	12,7	18,3
Ottawa	4,9	8,7	-3.8	6,3	6,8	13,3	6,7	10,1
Toronto	4,9	8,1	-3.2	7,6	8,7	8,4	7,6	9,9
Calgary	3,0	4,9	-1.9	5,2	5,0	5,7	4,4	8,5
Edmonton	3,1	4,9	-1.8	4,6	4,9	6,8	3,1	6,0
Vancouver	4,2	7,1	-2.9	7,7	6,5	6,5	6,4	7,0

When it comes to the Canadian-born population the results are quite different with the gap still most pronounced in Montreal but Toronto and Ottawa are not that far behind in this regard. It is the non-immigrant Latin American population that has the highest rate of unemployment in Montreal followed by the Black, Arab and South Asian population. In Ottawa and Toronto it is the Latin American and Black Canadian born populations with the highest rates of unemployment. In Ottawa the Arab population has a relatively low rate of unemployment. In Calgary it is the South Asian population with the highest rate amongst the Canadian-born. In Edmonton it is the Black population and in Vancouver the native-born Arab population.

Table 14

Unemployment Rate	NVM Non-immigrants	VM Non-immigrants	Difference	Chinese	South Asian	Black	Latin American	Arab
Canada	6,3	9,8	-3.5	7,9	10,4	12,2	12,3	9,0
Montréal	5,5	11,8	-6.3	8,1	12,0	12,6	14,1	12,4
Ottawa	5,1	10,1	-5.0	7,8	12,1	13,2	13,2	4,5
Toronto	5,6	11,2	-5.6	9,9	11,4	13,1	13,5	11,0
Calgary	3,8	7,2	-3.4	7,1	9,0	7,9	8,5	5,8
Edmonton	4,5	7,7	-3.2	6,6	7,3	12,2	6,6	6,6
Vancouver	4,6	7,1	-2.5	6,2	8,7	6,9	9,3	11,3

When controlling for age and level of education the census reveals that, with the exception of Montreal, the gaps are less or the same than on average in most cities. There, the difference in unemployment is greater when comparing those visible minorities with University degrees and the similarly educated white population between the ages of 35 and 44. In short, the university educated white population of Montreal has a slightly higher rate of unemployment than is the case in other immigrant receiving cities but that gap is much less pronounced than are the differences in unemployment between the more educated visible minorities compared with like groups elsewhere.

Table 15

Total 35 to 44 years Unemployment rate University certificate, diploma or degree	Total - Population by visible minority groups	Not a visible minority	visible minority population	Difference	Chinese	South Asian	Black	
Canada	4,1	3,0	7,0	-4.0	6,5	6,4	8,1	13
Quebec Prov	4,9	3,5	13,5	-10.0	9,0	13,1	13,4	1
Montréal	6,0	4,2	13,5	-9.3	9,2	13,1	12,9	2
Ontario	4,1	2,9	6,4	-3.5	6,4	6,7	6,6	8,9
Ottawa	3,6	2,8	6,1	-3.3	5,7	4,4	8,2	6,8
Toronto	4,6	3,2	6,2	-3.0	6,3	6,6	5,8	7,7
Alberta	2,9	2,2	5,0	-2.8	5,4	5,3	5,4	6,9
Calgary	3,2	2,6	4,8	-2.2	5,8	4,6	6,0	4,3
Edmonton	3,0	1,9	6,0	-4.1	5,3	7,3	7,3	10
British Columbia	4,2	3,0	6,2	-3.2	6,6	5,0	5,1	6,8

Vancouver	4,6	3,0	6,2	-3.2	6,7	5,0	5,8	6,2
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In Montreal the rates of unemployment in 2006 for immigrant university degree holders from visible minorities (aged 35-44) were significantly greater than those in other major Canadian cities. But the gaps between white and non-white amongst immigrants were roughly to those in the other major CMA's.

Table 16

35 to 44 years University certificate, diploma or degree Unemployment rate						
Immigrants	Montreal	Ottawa	Toronto	Calgary	Edmonton	Vancouver
Total - Population by visible minority groups	12,4	5,6	5,9	4,2	4,8	6,2
Not a visible minority	10,4	4,5	4,5	2,5	1,1	4,5
Total visible minority population	14,1	6,2	6,4	4,9	6,3	6,8
Difference	-3.7	-1.7	-1.9	-2.4	-5.2	-2.3
Chinese	9,2	5,8	6,7	6,0	6,1	7,5
South Asian	13,9	4,3	6,6	4,4	7,7	5,1
Black	13,7	9,9	6,1	6,4	7,1	6,2
Filipino	5,8	3,5	4,1	2,8	4,6	4,0
Latin American	17,7	6,8	6,7	1,5	5,1	6,5
Southeast Asian	3,7	3,6	4,6	6,3	5,3	7,8
Arab	20,6	7,6	8,0	5,2	12,3	5,5
West Asian	16,9	6,3	8,1	10,3	12,5	10,0
Korean	17,9	15,4	7,9	3,9	5,0	11,1

As to the most recent immigrants (arrived between 2001 and 2006) with university degrees it is Montreal that the groups have the highest rate of unemployment. However the gaps in levels of unemployment between white and non-white immigrants are not as significant in Montreal are not as wide as they are in Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary. In other words Montreal appears to be a more difficult place to secure employment for the most educated immigrants it does not seem to be more of a problem for immigrants on the basis of their skin color than it is in other major immigrant receiving cities.

Table 17

Immigrants arriving between 2001 to 2006 University certificate, diploma or degree	Montréal	Ottawa	Toronto	Calgary	Edmonton	Vancouver
Total - Population by visible minority groups	19,4	11,1	11,1	7,5	8,3	10,5
Not a visible minority	17,5	7,9	10,0	4,8	6,0	7,6
Total visible minority population	21,0	12,5	11,4	8,4	9,0	11,2
Difference between white and visible minority	-3.5	-4.6	-1.4	-3.6	-3.0	-3.6
Chinese	15,2	10,9	11,3	9,7	9,9	12,3
South Asian	17,2	10,1	11,8	9,5	11,0	10,4
Black	20,2	16,9	14,0	9,6	10,8	7,6
Filipino	12,3	10,1	6,4	2,9	6,1	6,6
Latin American	21,7	14,4	10,0	8,0	6,0	9,4
Southeast Asian	17,3	0,0	12,4	17,5	E	11,5
Arab	27,1	13,7	19,2	16,9	14,3	9,3
West Asian	16,1	14,3	14,5	8,8	9,3	18,2

Korean	15,6	22,2	12,6	4,7	E	15,3
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Non-Immigrants

In the case of non-immigrant university degree holders, the gap between white and non-white is greater in Ottawa than it is Montreal which finishes first and second respectively in possessing the widest gaps. When it comes to Canadian-born university degree holders it is Ottawa with the highest rate of unemployment for South Asians, followed by Montreal, for the Black population it is Edmonton followed by Ottawa, for Southeast Asian it is Ottawa followed by Toronto and for the Arab group it is Toronto followed by Montreal.

Table 18

Unemployment rate								
Non-immigrants Highest certifi: University certificate, diploma or degree	Total - Population by visible minority groups	Not a visible minority	visible minority population	Difference	Chinese	South Asian	Black	S A
Canada	3,5	3,4	5,7	-2.3	4,8	7,1	6,0	7
Montréal	3,3	3,2	6,1	-2.9	5,1	8,1	6,8	3
Ottawa	3,5	3,3	7,6	-4.3	5,2	11,6	9,7	1
Toronto	3,8	3,5	5,6	-2.1	5,2	6,5	5,2	1
Calgary	2,8	2,7	5,0	-2.3	4,9	7,5	4,3	5
Edmonton	3,2	3,1	5,3	-2.2	4,0	4,8	12,5	7
Vancouver	3,3	3,2	4,4	-1.2	4,0	5,4	5,9	5

When controlling for the 25-34 Canadian-born cohort (the first that would have a substantial share of university graduates the gaps between visible minority and white respondents narrow very substantially and in most almost disappear entirely. This may represent a positive future trend to follow at least as regards employment. It is important

to keep in mind that the data analyzed here does not address the issue wage inequity across visible minorities (this will be the object of a study in the fall of 2008).

Table 19

Unemployment rate	Non-immigrants	University certificate, diploma or degree	25 to 34 years				
	Total - Population by visible minority groups	Total visible minority population	Chinese	South Asian	Black	Arab	Not a visible minority
Canada	3,9	4,7	3,9	5,6	5,1	4,2	3,8
Montréal	3,6	5,3	5,6	5,7	5,7	5,4	3,5
Ottawa	4,0	7,7	4,3	12,4	7,3	E	3,6
Toronto	3,8	4,3	4,0	4,6	4,2	7,9	3,7
Edmonton	4,0	4,3	3,6	3,9	5,6	E	3,9
Calgary	2,8	3,5	3,3	5,0	4,1	E	2,7
Vancouver	4,1	4,4	3,8	5,9	E	E	4,0