



# Huron-Perth Immigrant Survey

## Summary report

# Table of contents



<b>3</b>	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Demographic information – respondents</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Use of community services</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Welcoming community</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Volunteerism</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Discrimination</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Additional demographic information</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Employment &amp; education</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>Housing</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>Accessing information</b>

# Introduction

## Overview

The Huron-Perth Immigrant Survey aimed to hear directly from immigrants and newcomers to Canada about their experiences, struggles, the diverse strengths they bring and contribute, as well as their suggestions for how to improve settlement and integration in Huron-Perth.

The multilingual survey was conducted in November 2023. The survey heard from 195 immigrants, temporary workers, international students, refugees and their families who shared their experiences of living, working and studying in Huron and Perth communities. The survey was available in English, Spanish, Ukrainian and Arabic, and distributed by a dozen organizations supporting immigrants and newcomers to Canada as they arrive in the area.

## Background

The survey was conducted by the Huron County Local Immigration Partnership, with support from the University of Guelph's Community Engaged Scholarship Institute (CESI), with funding from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.

The survey was adapted from a 2021 Waterloo Region survey of immigrants conducted by Waterloo Region Local Immigration Partnership and tailored to the Huron-Perth area by a working group of organizations supporting newcomers that included the Centre for Employment and Learning, Conestoga College, Fanshawe College, the Huron County Immigration Partnership, Perth County Economic Development, the Social Research and Planning Council, the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario, and the YMCA of Three Rivers. Before the survey was disseminated, it was reviewed and approved by the Community Research Ethics Office to ensure it was ethically sound. Nearly a dozen organizations and service providers helped recruit participants.

To encourage participation, draw prizes were available for people who completed the survey. Prizes included prepaid credit cards and Tim Horton's gift cards. While more than 200 surveys were completed, some responses were excluded from the final data analysis as the surveys who did not meet the inclusion criteria.

## A note about the data

The overall sample size is rather small in comparison to the 11,515 immigrants living in Huron and Perth. However, the 127 newcomers, who have lived in Canada for five years or less, who filled out this survey is significant, as Statistics Canada 2021 Census data recorded that 1,185 recent immigrants moved to Huron and Perth communities from 2016 to 2021.

Care should still be taken when interpreting the data – particularly with any smaller numbers. The data presented here reflects the experiences of all survey participants and is not disaggregated in any way. This report will be followed with a larger population-specific report in 2024 which will include more disaggregated results.

Additional information and reports released can be found at:

<https://www.huroncounty.ca/ImmigrantSurvey/>

## Demographic information – respondents

### Immigration category

What was your immigration status when you arrived in Canada? (n = 193)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
I immigrated to Canada as an economic-category immigrant (e.g. Federal Skilled Worker Program, Provincial Nominee Program, Canadian Experience Class, and dependants of economic applicants)	53	26.6%	38	15
I immigrated to Canada as a family-category immigrant (sponsored spouse, sponsored parent or grandparent, or other immigrant sponsored by family)	43	21.6%	24	19
I am currently in Canada on a CUAET (Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel) visa	33	16.6%	11	21
I moved to Canada on a temporary work visa	24	12%	19	5
I immigrated to Canada as a refugee	11	5.5%	1	10
I moved to Canada as an international student	11	5.5%	7	4
I arrived in Canada as a refugee claimant	4	2%	1	3
Other	8	4.1%	4	4
Prefer not to answer	6	3%	1	5

### Municipality of residence

Where do you currently live? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants
Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh	22	11%
Bluewater	4	2%
Central Huron	6	3%
Goderich	26	13%
Howick	1	0.5%
Huron East	8	4%
Morris-Turnberry	0	0%
North Huron	8	4%
South Huron	30	15.5%

Category	# of participants	% of participants
North Perth	33	17%
Perth East	4	2%
Perth South	3	1.5%
St. Marys	9	5%
Stratford	38	20%
West Perth	3	1.5%

**105** participants were from Huron County

**90** participants were from Perth County

### Length of time in Canada

How long have you been living in Canada? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Less than a year	43	22.1%	19	24
One to two years	40	20.5%	20	20
Three to five years	44	22.6%	30	14
Six to 10 years	29	14.9%	10	19
10+ years	39	20%	26	13

**65.2%** of the respondents were newcomers, people who lived in Canada for five years or less

## Country of origin

What country were you born in? (n = 194)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Ukraine	37	19.0%	14	23
Philippines	27	13.8%	21	6
India	22	11.3%	8	14
Jamaica	10	5.1%	9	1
Honduras	8	4.1%	8	0
Syria	8	4.1%	0	8
Eritrea	7	3.6%	0	7
Netherlands	7	3.6%	2	5
United States	7	3.6%	7	0
United Kingdom	6	3.1%	6	0
China	3	1.5%	1	2
Germany	3	1.5%	2	1
Mexico	3	1.5%	2	1
Australia	2	1.0%	1	1
Columbia	2	1.0%	1	2
Denmark	2	1.0%	1	1
Iran	2	1.0%	1	1
Pakistan	2	1.0%	1	1
South Africa	2	1.0%	2	0
Thailand	2	1.0%	1	1
Other*	28	14.4%	1	0

\*Other countries had single respondents. Those countries included: Austria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, Chile, Congo {Democratic Rep}, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Kenya, Korea South, Kosovo, Laos, Korea South, Moldova, Nepal, Poland, Portugal, Romania, South Sudan, Switzerland, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Venezuela and Vietnam.

Participants were born  
**in 49 different countries**  
 and now live and work  
 in Huron and Perth communities



## Language

What is the language you first learned at home? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Ukrainian	36	18.5%	14	22
English	31	15.9%	29	2
Spanish	23	11.8%	14	9
Tagalog	21	10.8%	18	3
Other*	22	11.3%	10	12
Malayalam	13	6.7%	1	12
Arabic	8	4.1%	1	7
Dutch	7	3.6%	2	5
Tigrinya	6	3.1%	0	6
German	4	2.1%	3	1
Gujarati	3	1.5%	2	1
Punjabi	3	1.5%	3	0
Afrikaans	2	1.0%	2	0
Ilonggo	2	1.0%	0	2
Korean	2	1.0%	2	0
Mandarin	2	1.0%	0	2
Nepali	2	1.0%	0	2
Portuguese	2	1.0%	1	1
Swahili	2	1.0%	1	1
Thai	2	1.0%	1	1
Urdu	2	1.0%	1	1

\*Languages that were only recorded once or where the language was not specified was inputted into other category.

**81%** speak more than one language



## Number of languages spoken

How many languages can you speak well? (n = 192)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
One	36	18.8%	24	12
Two	100	52.1%	55	45
Three	39	20.3%	20	19
Four	14	7.3%	3	11
Five or more	3	1.6%	1	2

## English language speaking and listening skills

How well can you speak and understand English? (n = 193)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Very well	93	48.2%	55	38
Well	28	14.5%	13	15
Fairly well	57	29.5%	31	26
Poorly	15	7.8%	6	9
Not at all	0	0.0%	0	0

**90%** of respondents are able to communicate in the English language fairly well, well, or very well



## English language reading and writing skills

How well can you read and write English? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Very well	91	46.7%	53	38
Well	23	11.8%	12	11
Fairly well	61	31.3%	33	28
Poorly	19	9.7%	6	13
Not at all	1	0.5%	1	0



## Use of government-funded services

Please rate your experience with the following government funded services in the last 12 months in Huron and/or Perth Counties. (n = 193)

Category	# of participants who used service overall	% of participants who used the service overall	% of users of this service that rated their experience as excellent or good	# of Huron County participants that rated their experience as excellent or good	# of Perth County participants that rated their experience as excellent or good
Health	161	83.4%	84.5%	73	63
Libraries	141	73.1%	94.3%	69	64
Hospitals	153	79.3%	81.7%	73	52
Recreation services	132	68.4%	88.6%	68	49
English language learning	126	65.3%	87.3%	50	60
Children's education	115	59.6%	88.7%	46	56
Police	107	55.4%	93.5%	53	47
Employment services	116	60.1%	78.5%	53	38
Social services	101	52.3%	88.1%	47	42
Language interpretation/translation	102	52.8%	82.4%	36	48
Settlement/immigration services	106	54.9%	77.4%	43	39
Mental health	95	49.2%	80.0%	35	41
Childcare	85	44.0%	84.7%	36	36
Adult education/skills training	88	45.6%	81.8%	30	42
Small business/entrepreneurial support	84	43.5%	71.4%	32	28

**Libraries, police, and children's education** were the highest rated services by newcomers

**What are the biggest challenges you or your family have experienced in the last year in Huron or Perth Counties? (Choose all that apply.) (n = 182)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County	# of Perth County
Cost of living or money problems	86	47.3%	49	37
Finding a family doctor	61	33.5%	32	29
Finding affordable housing	53	29.1%	32	21
Transportation	50	27.5%	30	20
Finding work that matches my professional qualifications	45	24.7%	23	22
Finding a place to live	32	17.6%	19	13
Finding food that is a cultural preference	31	17.0%	15	16
Making friends	30	16.5%	12	18
Finding other health care (dentist, optometrist, etc.)	28	15.4%	16	12
Learning English	26	14.3%	7	19
Finding a place to practice my religion	21	11.5%	11	10
Finding childcare	19	10.4%	11	8
Starting a new business	18	9.9%	7	11
Opportunities for your children's future	16	8.8%	9	7
Discrimination	15	8.2%	7	8
Receiving public or social services (e.g. settlement services, government services, etc.)	15	8.2%	8	7
Learning where and how to do things	14	7.7%	4	10
Finding relevant programming in local community centres, arts and culture spaces, libraries, etc.	13	7.1%	8	5
Getting information in a language you understand	12	6.6%	2	10
Making sure your children are safe and happy at school and in the community	8	4.4%	3	5
Finding mental health care	7	3.8%	6	1

**Cost of living** was consistently considered the top challenge newcomers and immigrants faced, followed by finding a **family doctor**, finding **affordable housing**, **transportation** and finding **work** that matched professional qualifications



### What changes would help immigrants and other newcomers to Canada to reach their full potential in your community?

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Better programs for immigrants to find work or start a business	43	34.4%	26	17
Availability of public transportation	35	28.0%	24	11
More affordable housing	33	26.4%	21	12
Actions to increase welcoming and acceptance of immigrants	29	23.2%	16	13
Educate employers on the value and ways of hiring, retaining and promoting immigrants	29	23.2%	17	12
A central place for both employers to find immigrant workers and for workers to find employment	23	18.4%	15	8
Actions to improve the social connections of immigrants	19	15.2%	12	7
Availability of a worship space for your religion	14	11.2%	4	10
Actions to reduce discrimination towards immigrants	13	10.4%	6	7
More opportunities to help improve English language skills	13	10.4%	9	4
English learning opportunities in workplaces	10	8.0%	4	6
Access to internet	7	5.6%	0	7
More available childcare	7	5.6%	5	2
Greater involvement in community leadership and planning	6	4.8%	4	2
More immigrant programming in local community centers, arts & culture spaces, libraries, etc.	6	4.8%	0	6
Availability of interpretation and translation services	5	4.0%	1	4
Computer access and training	5	4.0%	1	4
Mentorship opportunities	5	4.0%	1	4
More effort by community services to better serve immigrants	4	3.2%	2	2
More opportunities to help improve language skills other than English	4	3.2%	2	2
One place to get all settlement, immigration and other services	4	3.2%	3	1
Service agencies working together more	4	3.2%	4	0

**Improving employment & entrepreneurial services, extending public transportation and ensuring affordable housing was available were the top recommendations to help other immigrants reach their full potential**



### Health care and interpretation support

**If you or a family member went to a hospital, health clinic or talked to a health professional in the past year, did the clinic provide in-person or phone/video interpretation?**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Language interpretation was provided for me	17	9.1%	5	12
I wanted language interpretation but did not receive it	9	4.8%	5	4
I brought a family member or friend because interpretation was not available	15	8.0%	8	7
I brought a family member or friend because I prefer this instead of a professional interpreter	8	4.3%	5	3
I did not need language interpretation	104	55.6%	60	44
I did not go to a hospital, clinic or health professional	26	13.9%	13	13
Other	8	4.3%	4	4

## Welcoming community

### Recommending your community to other newcomers

How likely would you be to recommend to other immigrants to move to Huron or Perth Counties?

(n = 186)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Very likely	51	27.4%	28	23
Likely	61	32.8%	32	29
Somewhat likely	44	23.7%	26	18
Unlikely	21	11.3%	12	9
Not likely	9	4.8%	3	6

\*Options 'not sure' and 'prefer not to answer' were not provided and would be included in future surveys – a small number of participants skipped this question.

**60%** of respondents were likely to recommend communities in Huron and Perth as places to settle to other immigrants and newcomers

### Welcoming community

How welcoming is your community to immigrants and newcomers to Canada? (n = 189)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
5 - Very likely welcoming	64	33.9%	34	30
4	66	34.9%	40	26
3 - Neutral	38	20.1%	18	20
2	19	10.1%	10	9
1 - Very likely unwelcoming	2	1.1%	0	2

\*Note that 'not sure' and 'prefer not to answer' were not included as response options and will be included in future surveys – a small number of participants opted to skip this question.

## Sense of belonging

### How do you describe your sense of belonging in your community? (n = 193)

*(Sense of belonging is when you feel accepted and valued by others around you. It is when you feel like Huron or Perth Counties is truly your home.)*

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Very strong	62	32.1%	32	30
Somewhat strong	67	34.7%	40	27
Somewhat weak	33	17.1%	16	17
Very weak	10	5.2%	5	5
Don't know / no opinion	21	10.9%	12	9

**66.8%** felt they belonged in the community they live in



## Feeling at home

### How long did it take you to feel at home in this community? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
When I arrived	40	20.5%	23	17
Less than a year	49	25.1%	28	21
1-2 years	52	26.7%	25	27
3-5 years	24	12.3%	12	12
6-10 years	4	2.1%	4	0
More than 10 years	6	3.1%	5	1
I still don't feel at home in this community	20	10.3%	8	12

## Isolation and loneliness

### How often have you felt isolated or alone in the last 12 months in Huron or Perth? (n = 193)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Not at all	57	29.5%	32	25
A little bit	61	31.6%	36	25
Somewhat	32	16.6%	18	14
Quite a bit	30	15.5%	14	16
A great deal	13	6.7%	4	9

## Volunteerism

Do you belong to or volunteer with any organizations? (n = 193)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	71	36.8%	40	31
No	108	56.0%	56	52
Prefer not to answer, unsure	14	7.3%	7	7

**36.8%** are active volunteers



If yes, is the organization based in your community? (n = 71)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	60	84.5%	37	23
No	8	11.3%	2	6
Prefer not to answer, unsure	3	4.2%	1	2

If yes, what is type of organization is it? (n = 57)

Category	# of participants	% of participants
Immigration or newcomer	10	17.5%
Religious organization	10	17.5%
Other	9	15.8%
Arts and culture	3	5.3%
Education and research	3	5.3%
Environment	3	5.3%
Grant-making, fundraising and volunteer promotion	3	5.3%
Hospital/health care	3	5.3%
Business and professional associations and unions	2	3.5%
International organizations	2	3.5%
Social services	2	3.5%
Sports and recreation	6	3.5%
Development and housing	1	1.8%

\*Location not identified due to low numbers, which could compromise confidentiality

**If you volunteer, how many hours a month? (n = 52)**

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
Less than one hour	7	13.5%	1	6
One to three	24	46.2%	20	4
Four to 10	13	25.0%	6	7
10 or more	8	15.4%	5	3



## Discrimination

The next questions are about your experience with discrimination in the past 1 year (or in the time you have lived in the Huron-Perth area if that time is less than 1 year).

*Discrimination is defined as an action or a decision that treats a person or a group badly for reasons such as their race, age, disability, gender, religion, sexuality, etc. by the Canadian Human Rights Commission.*

### In the last 12 months have you experienced discrimination or been treated unfairly by others in the Huron-Perth area? (n = 191)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	31	16.2%	11	20
No	111	58.1%	58	53
Unsure	32	16.8%	25	7
Prefer not to say	17	8.9%	10	7

### If yes, in what locations have you experienced discrimination or unfair treatment? (n = 29)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	Often	Sometimes	Rarely
At your job – for example, from supervisors, co-workers, or clients.	18	62.1%	4	13	1
In a store, bank, or restaurant.	14	48.3%	1	12	1
While attending social gatherings.	12	41.4%	2	7	3
While using public areas, such as parks and sidewalks.	11	37.9%	3	7	1
When interacting with your neighbours.	10	34.5%	1	6	3
When applying for a job or promotion.	9	31.0%	5	3	1
When looking for housing (for example, buying a house or renting an apartment).	8	27.6%	1	4	3
When participating in a club, meeting, or organization.	8	27.6%	1	4	3
When attending school or classes.	8	27.6%	1	4	3
When interacting with hospitals or health care workers.	7	24.1%	1	4	2
While using libraries, community/recreational centres, arenas.	7	24.1%	1	3	3
While using public transit, such as buses, trains or taxis.	6	20.7%	1	3	2
When interacting with the police.	5	17.2%	1	4	0
When applying for a program or benefit.	3	10.3%	1	0	2
When interacting with the courts.	1	3.4%	0	1	0

## **Workplaces** were the most commonly reported place where discrimination occurred

In the past 1 year, have you experienced any of the following specific forms of discrimination or mistreatment? (n = 30)

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
Derogatory language	9	30.0%	2	7
Inappropriate jokes	8	26.7%	4	4
Did not experience	5	16.7%	0	5
Verbal abuse	3	10%	2	1
Verbal threat	4	13.3%	3	1
Other	1	3.3%	0	1

## Additional demographic information

These demographic questions are intended to help us build programs and services that meet the needs of diverse groups. While all these questions are optional, your answers are important. We want to hear from immigrants in all different groups in Huron and Perth Counties.

### What is your age? (n = 195)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
16-19 years	17	8.7%	2	15
20-24	11	5.6%	8	3
25-34	59	30.3%	37	22
35-44	71	36.4%	36	35
45-54	22	11.3%	10	12
55-64	9	4.6%	8	1
65 or older	6	3.1%	4	2

**In our society, people are often described by their race or racial background. These are not based on science, but our race may influence the way we are treated by individuals and institutions.**  
**Which category best describes you? (n = 193)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
White (e.g. European descent)	73	37.8%	41	32
South Asian (e.g. Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Indo-Caribbean)	22	11.4%	9	13
Black (e.g. African, African Canadian, Afro-Caribbean)	24	12.4%	12	12
Southeast Asian (e.g. Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai, Indonesian)	27	14.0%	22	5
Latin American (e.g. Mexican, Honduran)	17	8.8%	9	8
Prefer not to answer	9	4.7%	3	6
Middle Eastern (e.g. Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Syrian, Turkish)	8	4.1%	2	6
Do not know	8	4.1%	3	5
East Asian (e.g. Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese descent)	5	2.3%	4	1

**How would you describe your gender identity? (n = 194)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Man	95	49.0%	55	40
Woman	94	48.5%	49	45
Non-binary	1	0.5%	1	0
Prefer not to answer	1	0.5%	0	1
Prefer to self-describe	3	1.5%	0	3

**Do you have children under the age of 16 in your family? (n = 192)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
No	82	42.7%	44	38
1	57	29.7%	39	18
2	29	15.1%	9	20
3	16	8.3%	6	10
4 or more	8	4.2%	5	3

**57.5%** of respondents have children under the age of 16

**Do you self-identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community? (n = 191)  
(lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
No	176	92.1%	97	79
Prefer not to say	13	6.8%	6	7
Yes	2	1.0%	1	1

**Are you living with a disability (physical or mental) or a chronic illness that limits your activity? (n = 194)**

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
No	185	95.4%	101	84
Yes	6	3.1%	2	4
Prefer not to answer	3	1.5%	2	1

**If you are a member of a faith community, please share which one: (n = 191)**

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
Christian	100	52.4%	55	45
I am not a member of a faith community	47	24.6%	27	20
Muslim	15	7.9%	3	12
Prefer not to answer	8	4.2%	5	3
Atheist	7	3.7%	5	2
Hindu	5	2.6%	1	4
Other	5	2.6%	4	1
Sikh	3	1.6%	3	0
Buddhist	1	0.5%	1	0

## Employment & education

What is the highest level of education you have completed? (n = 194)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
No formal education	4	2.1%	2	2
Less than 6 years of formal education	4	2.1%	1	3
Less than 8 years of formal education	3	1.6%	1	2
Less than 12 years of formal education	11	5.7%	2	9
Completed secondary school or equivalent	16	8.2%	10	6
Trade/technical school	11	5.7%	9	2
College diploma	19	9.8%	13	6
Bachelor's degree	71	36.6%	44	27
Master's degree	41	21.1%	18	23
PhD	6	3.1%	4	2
Prefer not to answer	8	4.1%	1	7

**71%** completed college, university education or an advanced degree



**What is your paid employment status? (n = 192)**

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
Employed full-time at one job (30 hours a week or more)	96	50.0%	57	39
Employed part-time at one job (Less than 30 hours a week)	18	9.4%	7	11
Self-employed or own your own business	16	8.3%	14	2
Unemployed, looking for work	14	7.3%	3	11
Student	11	5.7%	3	8
Employed part-time at more than one job (Less than 30 hours a week)	8	4.2%	6	2
Homemaker	8	4.2%	2	6
Employed full-time at more than one job (30 hours a week or more)	7	3.6%	5	2
Other	6	3.1%	3	3
Retired	4	2.1%	2	2
Unemployed, not looking for work	2	1.0%	1	1
Prefer not to answer	2	1.0%	0	2

**In what professional field are you most skilled and experienced? (n = 188)**

<b>Category</b>	<b># of participants</b>	<b>% of participants</b>	<b># of Huron County participants</b>	<b># of Perth County participants</b>
Agriculture, natural resources and related production occupations	39	20.7%	27	12
Business, finance and administration occupations	28	14.9%	17	11
Sales and service occupations	22	11.7%	14	8
Health occupations	20	10.6%	8	12
Art, culture, recreation and sport occupations	15	8.0%	8	7
Manufacturing and utilities occupations	14	7.5%	5	9
Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	13	6.9%	5	8
Other	17	9.0%	6	11
Natural and applied sciences occupations	9	4.8%	4	5
Education, law and social, community and government service occupations	10	5.3%	7	3
Legislative and senior management occupations	1	0.5%	1	0

**Are you in a job in Canada that is at the same level as your international experience and education? (n = 195)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participant	# of Perth County participants
Yes	75	38.5%	50	25
No	83	42.6%	42	41
I'm not currently employed	30	15.4%	10	20
Prefer not to answer	7	3.6%	3	4

# 43%

said their current job was not at the same level as their international experience and education



**Were your international skills and experience recognized in Canada? (n = 192)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	88	45.8%	54	34
No	62	32.3%	38	24
I'm not currently employed	25	13.0%	4	21
Prefer not to answer	17	8.9%	7	10



## Housing

How many people live in your house or apartment? (n = 191)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
1 person	7	3.7%	5	2
2 people	40	20.9%	23	17
3 people	37	19.4%	23	14
4 people	44	23.0%	17	27
5 people	22	11.5%	10	12
6 people	16	8.4%	12	4
7 to 9 people	16	8.4%	5	11
10 or more people	9	4.7%	8	1

**56%** live in a home with four or more people



Which of the following describes your living status? (n = 191)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Homeowner	65	34.0%	38	27
Renter	96	50.3%	54	42
Rent social housing (houses or apartments made available to rent at a low cost)	11	5.8%	4	7
Rent geared to income housing	5	2.6%	2	3
I don't have a permanent place to live (couch surfing, homeless)	0	0.0%	0	0
Other	8	4.2%	3	5
Prefer not to answer	6	3.1%	1	5

**Does your housing suit your needs? (n = 184)**

(Are there enough bedrooms and is it in good repair)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	151	82.1%	84	67
No	14	7.6%	8	6
Prefer not to answer	19	10.3%	9	10

**Is your housing affordable?**

(Housing is considered "affordable" if it costs less than 30% of a household's before-tax income)

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Yes	94	50.8%	63	31
No	58	31.4%	27	31
Prefer not to answer	33	17.8%	12	21

**Is your household income enough for the needs of your household? (n = 194)**

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
Our income is more than enough for our needs	21	10.8%	14	7
Our income is enough for our needs	75	38.7%	47	28
Our income is not quite enough for our needs	55	28.4%	28	27
Our income is definitely not enough for our needs	24	12.4%	8	16
Prefer not to answer	19	9.8%	7	12

**40.8%** do not have enough household income to meet their needs



## Accessing information

### Where do you prefer to get information about community and settlement services? (n = 188)

Category	% of participants who prefer this means (selected yes or sometimes)	Yes	Sometimes	No
Facebook	66.5%	93	32	16
Emails	63.8%	91	29	22
Family or friends	56.4%	74	32	16
Local media (newspaper, radio)	50.5%	61	34	24
Community organization websites	50.0%	51	43	28
Co-worker or work related contact	44.7%	48	36	29
Newsletter	43.1%	47	34	38
Library	42.6%	49	31	34
Instagram	38.3%	48	24	38
Messaging apps (e.g. WhatsApp, Telegram, etc.)	36.7%	45	24	41
Information session	35.1%	33	33	36
Settlement worker or other community organization staff	34.6%	44	21	41
At a community of faith	30.3%	38	19	40
LinkedIn	26.6%	22	28	55
Twitter	21.3%	25	15	50
Other	10.6%	7	13	34

### How did you find out about this survey?

Category	# of participants	% of participants	# of Huron County participants	# of Perth County participants
A friend or personal connection	37	22.6%	18	19
A community organization	29	17.7%	12	17
Other	28	17.1%	12	16
Social media	27	16.5%	18	9
At work	18	11.0%	16	2
Website/newsletter	11	6.7%	11	0
Ambassador	6	3.7%	5	1
Newspaper/media	6	3.7%	4	2
At an event	1	0.6%	0	1
Poster	1	0.6%	1	0



A full research report will be available in July 2024.  
Find it on <https://www.huroncounty.ca/ImmigrantSurvey/>



**County of Huron | Immigration Partnership**  
57 Napier St. Goderich, ON; N7A 1W2  
Email: [home@huroncounty.ca](mailto:home@huroncounty.ca)  
[www.HuronCounty.ca/immigration-partnership](http://www.HuronCounty.ca/immigration-partnership)

Funded by:



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Financé par :

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada



COMMUNITY ENGAGED  
SCHOLARSHIP INSTITUTE