

Visible Minority Population Continues to Rise

Under the *Employment Equity Act*, [visible minorities](#) are defined as persons, other than Aboriginal persons, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour.

- The visible minority population in the province has grown steadily. The 1996 Census reported that just under 8,000 people were members of the visible minority population or 1.1% of the total population. According to the 2011 National Household Survey, an estimated 17,130 individuals or 2.3% of the total population belonged to a visible minority group.
- By comparison, visible minorities comprised 11.2% of Canada’s total population in 1996 and 19.1% in 2011.
- Visible minorities constitute a higher share of recent immigrants to the province (those who arrived between 2006 and 2011) than older immigrants. This is chiefly due to the number of immigrants coming from non-European countries. In 2011, visible minorities accounted for 65.8% of recent immigrants, while they made up 7.7% of immigrants who arrived before 1981.
- Combined, the four largest visible minority groups in New Brunswick in 2011 – Blacks, Chinese, South Asians, and Koreans – accounted for 68.3% of the visible minority population. Blacks formed the largest group with 4,875 members and accounted for more than one-quarter (28.5%) of visible minorities in the province.
- New Brunswick’s visible minorities were younger than the total population, with a median age of 27.6 years in 2011 compared with 43.7 years for the population as a whole.
- The vast majority of the visible minority population (79.9%) lived in the urban centres of Moncton, Saint John and Fredericton.

