NEW ESTIMATES OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FOR CANADA

BARRY EDMONSTON
University of Victoria
PRESENTATION TOPICS

- BACKGROUND

- ESTIMATING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FOR 1671-2006. MOST TIME WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE 1811-2006 PERIOD.

- CONCLUDING REMARKS
CLASSIC APPROACH FOR ESTIMATING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

- Estimate fertility and mortality: calculate net immigration from difference between population change and natural increase

- Estimates can be made by age and sex

- Makes strong assumptions about the accuracy of the population counts as well fertility and mortality

- Unless other data are available, estimates are for net immigration (not immigration and emigration)
NEW INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION ESTIMATES

1. "OFFICIAL" HISTORICAL ESTIMATES HAVE WELL-KNOWN PROBLEMS. MCINNIS HAS MADE NEW ESTIMATES FOR LATE 1800S

2. USE CONSISTENT CENSUS CORRECTION METHODS

3. MAKE USE OF NATIVITY DATA FOR ESTIMATES FOR IMMIGRANT GENERATION POPULATION PROJECTIONS
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FOR LATE 1800S

- SEVERAL PROBLEMS FOR OFFICIAL IMMIGRATION DATA FOR 1871-1901
- LARGE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS WHO WERE EN ROUTE TO USA
- SUBSTANTIAL MOVEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND USA THAT WAS NOT RECORDED AT LAND BORDERS
COMPARISONS OF IMMIGRATION ESTIMATES

Year

1851-1861 1861-1871 1871-1881 1881-1891 1891-1901 1901-1911 1911-1921

Immigrants (1000s)

0 200 400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1800 2000

Official
Keyfitz
Edmonston

- Blue
- Red
- Yellow

LEGEND
CONSISTENT CENSUS CORRECTION (CCC)

- ONE CHALLENGE IN ESTIMATING PERIOD EFFECTS OF IMMIGRATION ARE DATA LIMITATIONS

- NORMAN LUTHER'S (1987) CCC METHOD
  - With caution, can be used if reasonable birth, death, and census data are available
  - Provides adjusted net immigration estimates
CCC METHOD

- **BASED ON INTERCENSAL POPULATION CHANGE WITH:**
  - Demographic balancing equations
  - Estimates of preliminary correction factors
  - Estimates for correction weights

- **CCC OPTIMIZES DIMENSIONAL VECTOR SPACE OF BALANCING EQUATIONS**
  - Provides adjusted, consistent estimates for births, deaths, migration, and census age-sex distribution
  - Many possible solutions for balancing equations. CCC methods find one consistent solution, given the initial correction factors and correction weights
IMMIGRANT GENERATION POPULATION PROJECTIONS

- APPROACH PROPOSED BY EDMONSTON AND PASSEL IN EARLY 1990S
  - Example for U.S. Latino population from Lee and Edmonston (2006)

- CHARACTERIZE THE POPULATION BY AGE, SEX, AND IMMIGRANT GENERATION
  - 1\textsuperscript{st} Generation: Immigrants
  - 2\textsuperscript{nd} Generation: Sons and daughters of immigrants
  - 3\textsuperscript{rd}+ Generations: Subsequent descendants
INTRODUCING NEW ESTIMATES FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION
NEW ESTIMATES FOR EARLY COLONIAL PERIOD, 1671-1841

[Bar chart showing immigration, emigration, and net number by year from 1671 to 1841.]
NET IMMIGRATION BY NATIVITY, 1811-2006
NEW ESTIMATES FOR FOREIGN-BORN RESIDENTS, 1811-2006

![Graph showing immigration, emigration, and net change over time from 1811 to 2006.](image-url)
NEW ESTIMATES FOR RATES OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, 1671-2006

![Graph showing rates of immigration, emigration, and net migration from 1671 to 2006. The graph includes data points for every decade from 1811 to 1991, with rates expressed as a percentage of the beginning population.]
CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- The main purpose of this paper is to present new estimates of international migration for Canada.

- They demonstrate the usefulness of recent revised historical data and two methods to provide international migration estimates with nativity information.
If there are questions:
Barry Edmonston
be@uvic.ca