



Census Division Migration, 1996-2014

Vol. 3, No. 4, Oct. 2015

Highlights

- Non-metro census divisions (CDs) have been losing population in the migration exchange for each year since 2006.
- The overall positive in-flow of migrants to non-metro CDs from other CDs in Ontario is more than offset by migrant departures to other provinces.
- Despite this net outflow, in 2014, 52% of non-metro CDs experienced positive net migration

Why look at migration to and from non-metro?

Migration into and out of non-metro census divisions (CDs) is a key source of population growth (and population loss). Given birth rates below replacement and a low level of international newcomers, the attraction of migrants into non-metro CDs is a critical strategy for maintaining or growing local population.

Findings

In most years, non-metro CDs attracted more migrants from other CDs in Ontario than they lost (Figure 1 and Table 1, line 7).

Non-metro CDs have been losing migrants to other provinces, on a net basis, since 2003 (Figure 1 and Table 1, line 3).

When the two components of internal migration are combined, non-metro CDs have been losing population in the migration exchange for each year since 2006 (Table 1, line 11). Thus, the overall positive in-flow of migrants to non-metro CDs from other CDs in Ontario is more than offset by migrant departures to other provinces.

Despite this collective net outflow, in 2014, 15 out of 29 non-metro CDs (52%) experienced positive net migration (due to the combined migration exchange with other provinces and other Ontario CDs) (Figure 2 and Table 1 line 23). Since 1996, one-third or more of non-metro CDs have attracted more individuals than they have lost due to migration.

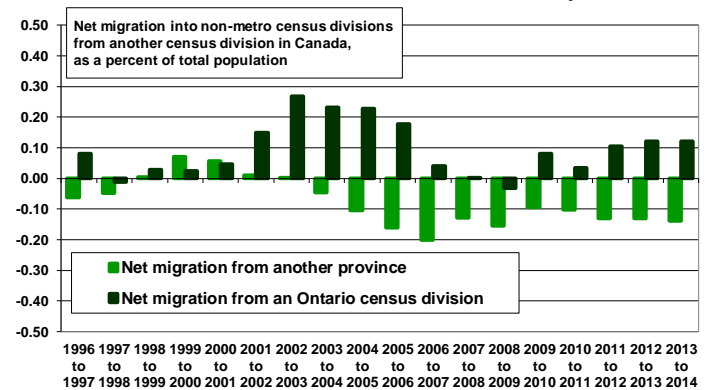
In 2014, two non-metro CDs (Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry and Renfrew; Table 2, lines 15 and 16) attracted more migrants from other provinces, compared to the loss of migrants to other provinces.

In 2014, the top non-metro CDs in terms of the migration exchange with other Ontario CDs were Northumberland, Muskoka and Haliburton (Table 2,

lines 38, 39 and 40). This migration exchange contributed 0.9% or more to their 2014 population.

Figure 1

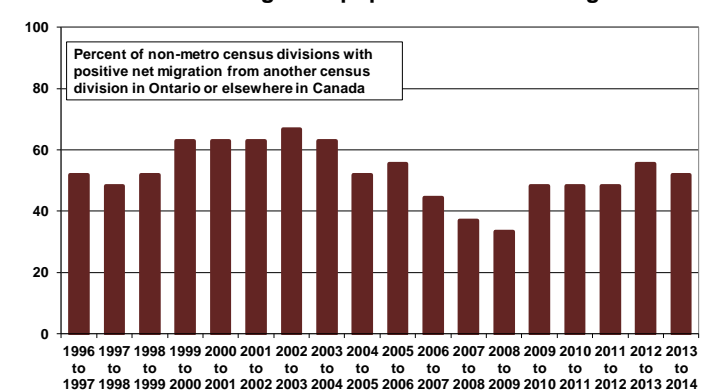
In 2014, non-metro census divisions gained 0.12% from other Ontario census divisions but lost 0.14% to other provinces



Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics. CANSIM Table 051-0063.

Figure 2

In 2014, 52% of non-metro census divisions gained population from net migration



Source: Statistics Canada. Annual Demographic Statistics. CANSIM Table 051-0063.

Summary

Overall, Ontario's non-metro CDs have been losing population due to the migration. However, since 1996, between 33% and 67% of non-metro CDs have gained population from migration.

