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YEAR 2020

GOAL 2: INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

NEW BRUNSWICK WILL RECEIVE A
PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL
IMMIGRANTS EQUAL TO ITS NATIONAL
POPULATION SHARE.



STATUS: PROGRESSING



Overview

Problem

New Brunswick's population is declining due to an aging population and poor retention of youth and immigrants. In 1976, New Brunswick's population share peaked at 2.94%, however, it has since dropped by 29.6% to 2.07% in 2019.

Cause

The imbalance between the aging population and youth population in New Brunswick is creating a low population growth rate in the province. Due to the shortage of jobs, the youth population is leaving New Brunswick resulting in a net loss in interprovincial migration. In addition, New Brunswick has a low fertility rate. Therefore, the number of children being born is relatively low. As such, the death rate is almost equal to the birth rate, resulting in a natural increase of zero.

Importance

International migration is crucial to increase New Brunswick's population to grow the economy and develop communities. International migration will allow skilled employees to meet the employment needs of current businesses as well as create businesses of their own.

Recommendation

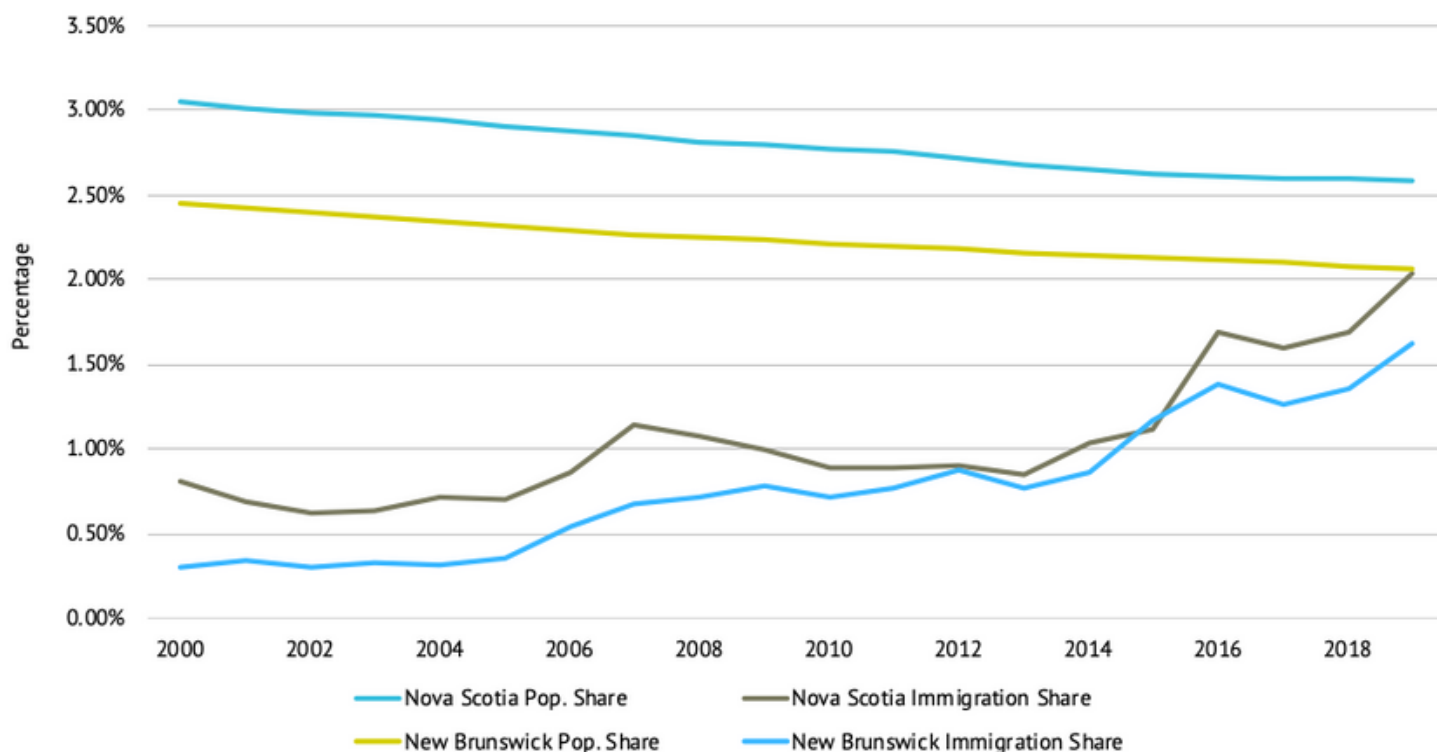
International migration to New Brunswick can be increased by growing the job market as this will attract a skilled workforce. Moreover, the province can achieve growth by helping newcomers and their families attain success. This can be accomplished through creating stronger, more inclusive communities that foster and value diversity. Skilled international immigrants complement the skills of the domestic labour force. In addition, they develop new investments and innovative practices, and form trade routes to their homelands.

In the Numbers

International Immigration Share in the Province

Although New Brunswick is on track to attain a percentage of international immigrants equal to its population share, this is partly due to the province's slow population growth. It can be observed from Figure 1 that both New Brunswick's population and immigration shares fall below those of Nova Scotia. Furthermore, in 2019, New Brunswick received only 1.62% of the immigrant population arriving in Canada, rather than the approximated 2.08%.

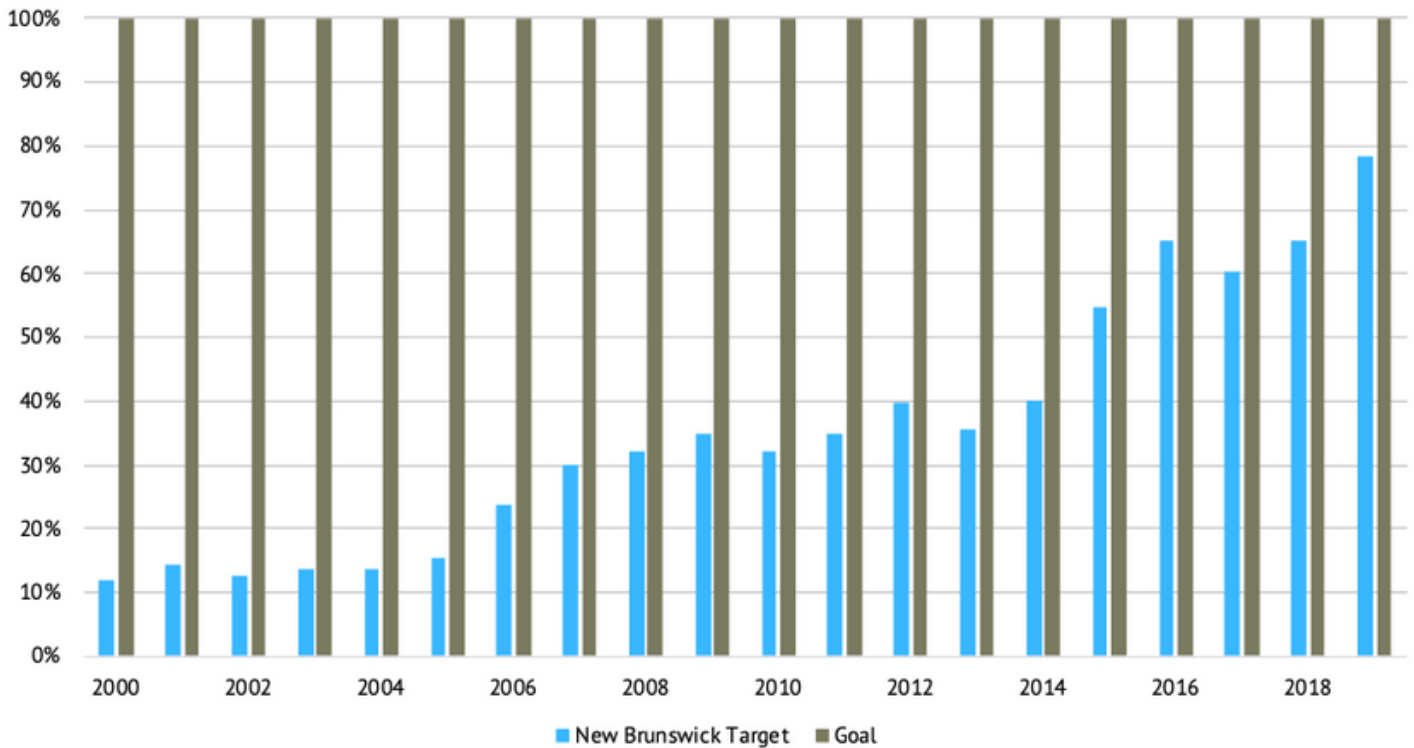
Figure 1: Population and Immigration Share



(See full data set in Appendix A)

Thus, as presented in Figure 2, even with increasing numbers of immigrants coming to New Brunswick, the province only achieved 78% of the suggested goal that year.

Figure 2: Percentage of Goal - Share of Immigrants to Share of National Population



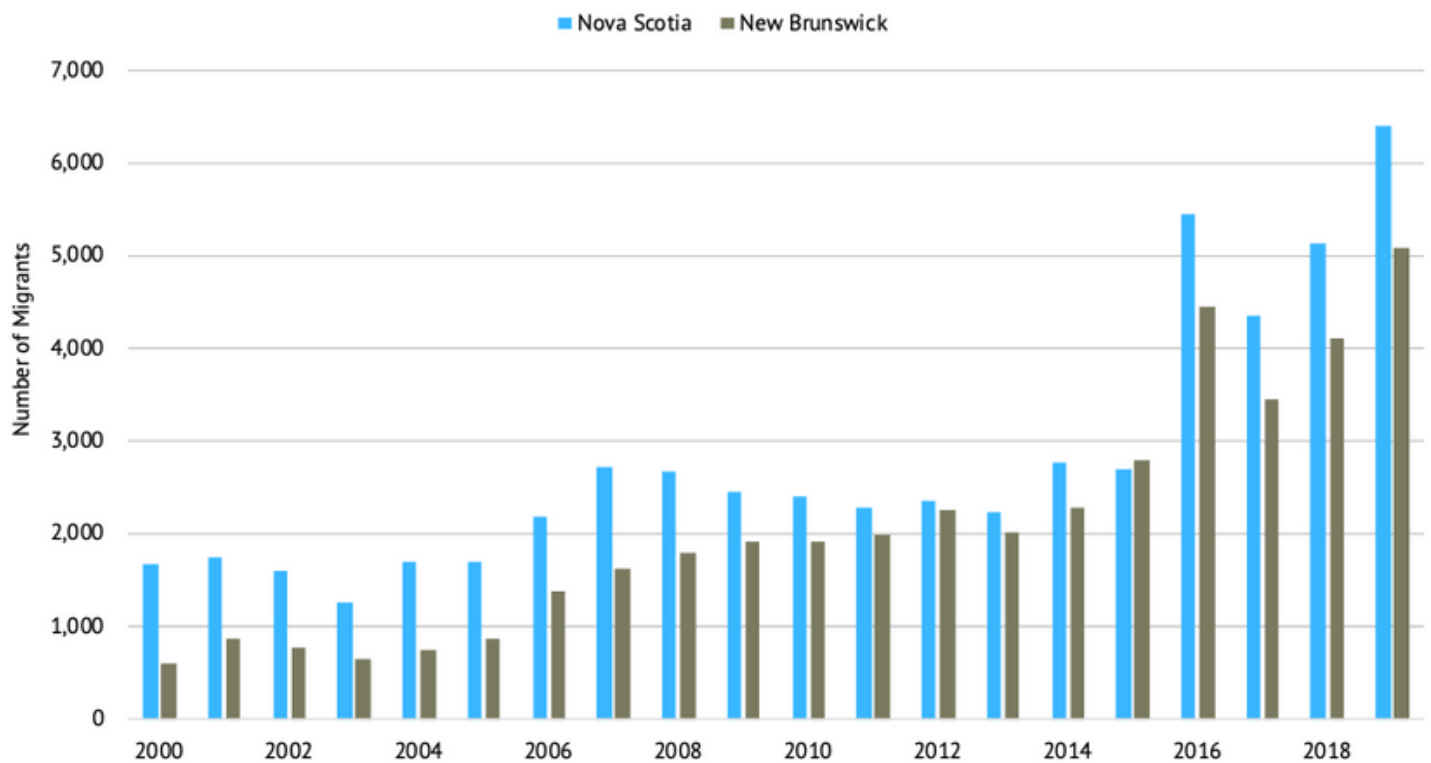
(See full data set in Appendix B)

A Closer Look

Annual Immigration Settlement

As shown in Figure 3, from 2000 to 2005, New Brunswick experienced its lowest immigration levels in 40 years, whereas Nova Scotia saw substantially higher numbers. From 2006 to 2019, New Brunswick's immigration numbers increased, reaching their highest point in 2016. This was due to a high influx of Syrian refugees.

Figure 3: Number of Migrants Settling Annually



(See full data set in Appendix C)

Summary

New Brunswick's population is declining due to an aging population and poor retention of youth. New Brunswick should consider stimulating economic growth by increasing its population size. This could be accomplished not only by promoting Interprovincial Migration (see Goal 1) but also by receiving a larger number of immigrants. If New Brunswick adopts the same strategy outlined by OneNS, its goal should be to receive a percentage of international immigrants equal to New Brunswick's share of the Canadian population. This goal is progressing as the province has seen higher levels of international immigration in recent years.

Appendix A

Population and Immigration Share

Year	Nova Scotia Pop. Share	New Brunswick Pop. Share	Nova Scotia Immigration Share	New Brunswick Immigration Share
1973	3.61%	2.92%	1.39%	1.03%
1974	3.59%	2.91%	1.41%	1.05%
1975	3.57%	2.93%	1.12%	0.95%
1976	3.56%	2.94%	1.18%	1.32%
1977	3.54%	2.93%	1.42%	1.09%
1978	3.52%	2.92%	1.21%	0.74%
1979	3.51%	2.91%	1.14%	0.82%
1980	3.48%	2.88%	1.31%	1.06%
1981	3.44%	2.85%	1.00%	0.76%
1982	3.42%	2.82%	1.09%	0.65%
1983	3.42%	2.82%	0.92%	0.65%
1984	3.43%	2.81%	1.06%	0.63%
1985	3.43%	2.80%	1.25%	0.71%
1986	3.41%	2.78%	1.10%	0.70%
1987	3.38%	2.75%	0.89%	0.52%
1988	3.35%	2.73%	0.80%	0.38%
1989	3.31%	2.70%	0.82%	0.41%
1990	3.29%	2.67%	0.71%	0.47%
1991	3.26%	2.66%	0.70%	0.33%
1992	3.24%	2.64%	0.79%	0.33%
1993	3.22%	2.61%	0.97%	0.28%
1994	3.20%	2.59%	1.31%	0.25%
1995	3.17%	2.56%	1.69%	0.31%
1996	3.15%	2.54%	1.56%	0.30%
1997	3.12%	2.52%	1.38%	0.30%
1998	3.09%	2.49%	1.33%	0.37%
1999	3.07%	2.47%	0.94%	0.43%
2000	3.04%	2.45%	0.81%	0.30%
2001	3.01%	2.42%	0.69%	0.35%
2002	2.98%	2.39%	0.63%	0.30%
2003	2.96%	2.37%	0.63%	0.32%
2004	2.94%	2.35%	0.71%	0.32%
2005	2.91%	2.32%	0.70%	0.35%
2006	2.88%	2.29%	0.86%	0.54%
2007	2.84%	2.27%	1.14%	0.68%
2008	2.81%	2.25%	1.07%	0.72%
2009	2.79%	2.23%	1.00%	0.78%
2010	2.77%	2.21%	0.89%	0.71%
2011	2.75%	2.20%	0.88%	0.77%
2012	2.72%	2.18%	0.91%	0.87%
2013	2.68%	2.16%	0.85%	0.77%
2014	2.65%	2.14%	1.04%	0.86%
2015	2.62%	2.13%	1.12%	1.16%
2016	2.61%	2.11%	1.68%	1.38%
2017	2.60%	2.10%	1.60%	1.26%
2018	2.59%	2.08%	1.69%	1.36%
2019	2.58%	2.07%	2.04%	1.62%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (persons) (1); Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0005: Estimates of population, Canada, provinces and territories, quarterly (persons) (1,2,3,6)

Appendix B

Percentage of Goal: Share of Immigrants to Share of National Population

Year	NS Share Target	NB Share Target
1972	40.44%	31.63%
1973	38.43%	35.31%
1974	39.25%	35.96%
1975	31.33%	32.64%
1976	33.09%	44.83%
1977	39.99%	37.11%
1978	34.25%	25.48%
1979	32.60%	28.06%
1980	37.68%	36.93%
1981	29.00%	26.59%
1982	31.76%	23.16%
1983	26.99%	23.17%
1984	30.93%	22.39%
1985	36.46%	25.37%
1986	32.25%	25.38%
1987	26.46%	18.82%
1988	23.78%	13.98%
1989	24.67%	15.29%
1990	21.75%	17.55%
1991	21.34%	12.54%
1992	24.34%	12.48%
1993	30.23%	10.74%
1994	41.00%	9.67%
1995	53.29%	11.95%
1996	49.66%	11.69%
1997	44.38%	11.89%
1998	43.10%	14.81%
1999	30.53%	17.59%
2000	26.74%	12.10%
2001	23.01%	14.32%
2002	21.04%	12.49%
2003	21.30%	13.67%
2004	24.27%	13.55%
2005	24.01%	15.24%
2006	29.99%	23.80%
2007	40.10%	29.94%
2008	37.97%	32.05%
2009	35.74%	35.06%
2010	32.19%	32.18%
2011	32.17%	34.83%
2012	33.39%	39.84%
2013	31.85%	35.58%
2014	39.16%	39.96%
2015	42.56%	54.66%
2016	64.49%	65.25%
2017	61.43%	60.26%
2018	65.41%	65.23%
2019	78.89%	78.33%

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (persons) (1); Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0005: Estimates of population, Canada, provinces and territories, quarterly (persons) (1,2,3,6)

Appendix C

Number of Migrants Settling Annually

Year	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick
1972	1,709	1,081
1973	1,923	1,428
1974	3,064	2,279
1975	2,342	1,998
1976	2,004	2,241
1977	1,854	1,425
1978	1,219	751
1979	967	689
1980	1,885	1,530
1981	1,271	963
1982	1,470	883
1983	937	662
1984	939	558
1985	1,049	596
1986	974	625
1987	1,170	678
1988	1,212	580
1989	1,452	732
1990	1,454	954
1991	1,542	738
1992	1,927	804
1993	2,599	748
1994	3,084	589
1995	3,726	676
1996	3,397	646
1997	3,111	673
1998	2,590	717
1999	1,624	752
2000	1,674	609
2001	1,747	874
2002	1,609	765
2003	1,257	645
2004	1,707	760
2005	1,708	865
2006	2,197	1,386
2007	2,715	1,616
2008	2,668	1,797
2009	2,446	1,918
2010	2,413	1,928
2011	2,292	1,986
2012	2,360	2,263
2013	2,246	2,024
2014	2,779	2,293
2015	2,688	2,797
2016	5,442	4,458
2017	4,357	3,448
2018	5,137	4,116
2019	6,393	5,076

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (persons) (1)