CHOOSING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN: TRENDS AND IMPLICATIONS

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TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- MOTIVATION FOR RESEARCH
  - THEORETICAL
  - MEASUREMENT
- RESEARCH QUESTIONS
- DATA & METHODS
- RESULTS
- DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

THEORETICAL MOTIVATION: WHY STUDY RACE & ETHNICITY?

- POWER OF RACE & ETHNICITY IN SOCIAL LIFE
- SOCIOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF ETHNICITY
- ETHNICALLY DIVERSE CANADA
- EMERGENCE OF A NATIONAL ETHNIC IDENTITY AS “CANADIAN”

CONCEPTUAL & THEORETICAL CHALLENGES IN STUDYING ETHNICITY

- MEANING OF ETHNICITY
- THE TRADITION OF MAX WEBER

SOCIAL CONSTRUCTIONIST PERSPECTIVE

- MULTIPLE ETHNICITIES
- HIGHLY FLUID, SITUATIONAL
- SUBJECTIVE
- HERBERT GANS AND SYMBOLIC ETHNICITY

MEASUREMENT MOTIVATION: "RACE" & "ETHNIC" DATA

- "RACE" & "ETHNICITY" AS OBJECTS OF SOCIAL ANALYSIS
- THE ROLE OF THE CENSUS

MEASUREMENT CHALLENGES IN STUDYING ETHNICITY

- THE CENSUS
- POLITICAL CONSTRUCTION OF ETHNICITY
- ARTIFACTUAL EFFECTS

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- WHAT ARE THE TRENDS IN CHOOSING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN FROM 1991 TO 2001?
- WHAT FACTORS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH CHOOSING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN?
- WHAT ARE SOME IMPLICATIONS?

DATA

- 1991, 1996, 2001 CANADIAN CENSUS PUBLIC-USE MICRODATA FILES
- RESPONSES TO ETHNIC ORIGIN QUESTION
- CHANGES IN FORMAT AND WORDING OF ETHNIC ORIGIN QUESTION

Chart 1. **Ethnic Origin Question, 1991 Canadian Census**

15 To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's ancestors belong?
Mark or specify as many as applicable.

Note:
While most people of Canada view themselves as Canadian, information about their ancestral origins has been collected since the 1901 Census to reflect the changing composition of the Canadian population and is needed to ensure that everyone, regardless of his/her ethnic or cultural background, has equal opportunity to share fully in the economic, social cultural and political life of Canada. Therefore, this question refers to the origins of this person's ancestors.

See Guide

Example of other ethnic or cultural groups are:
Portuguese, Greek, Indian from India, Pakistani, Filipino, Vietnamese, Japanese, Lebanese, Haitian, etc.

- ☐ French
- ☐ English
- ☐ German
- ☐ Scottish
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Irish
- ☐ Ukrainian
- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Dutch (Netherlands)
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Polish
- ☐ Black
- ☐ North American Indian
- ☐ Métis
- ☐ Inuit / Eskimo

Other ethnic or cultural group(s) - Specify

Chart 2. **Ethnic Origin Question in English, 1996 Canadian Census**

17 To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's ancestors belong?

For example French, English, German, Scottish,

Canadian, Italian, Irish, Chinese, Cree, Micmac,

Métis, Inuit(Eskimo), Ukrainian, Dutch, East Indian,

Polish, Portuguese, Jewish, Haitian, Jamaican,

Vietnamese, Lebanese, Chilean, Somali, etc.

Specify as many groups as applicable

CHART 3: 2001 ETHNIC ORIGIN QUESTION

While most people in Canada view themselves as Canadians, information on their ancestral origins has been collected since the 1901 Census to capture the changing composition of Canada's diverse population. Therefore, this question refers to the ***origins of the person's ancestors.***

17 To which ethnic or cultural group(s) did this person's **ancestors** belong?

For example, Canadian, French, English, Chinese, Italian, German, Scottish, Irish, Cree, Micmac, Métis, Inuit (Eskimo), East Indian, Ukrainian, Dutch, Polish, Portuguese, Filipino, Jewish, Greek, Jamaican, Vietnamese, Lebanese, Chilean, Somali, etc.

Specify as many groups as applicable

19

20

21

22

Specify as many groups as applicable

19

20

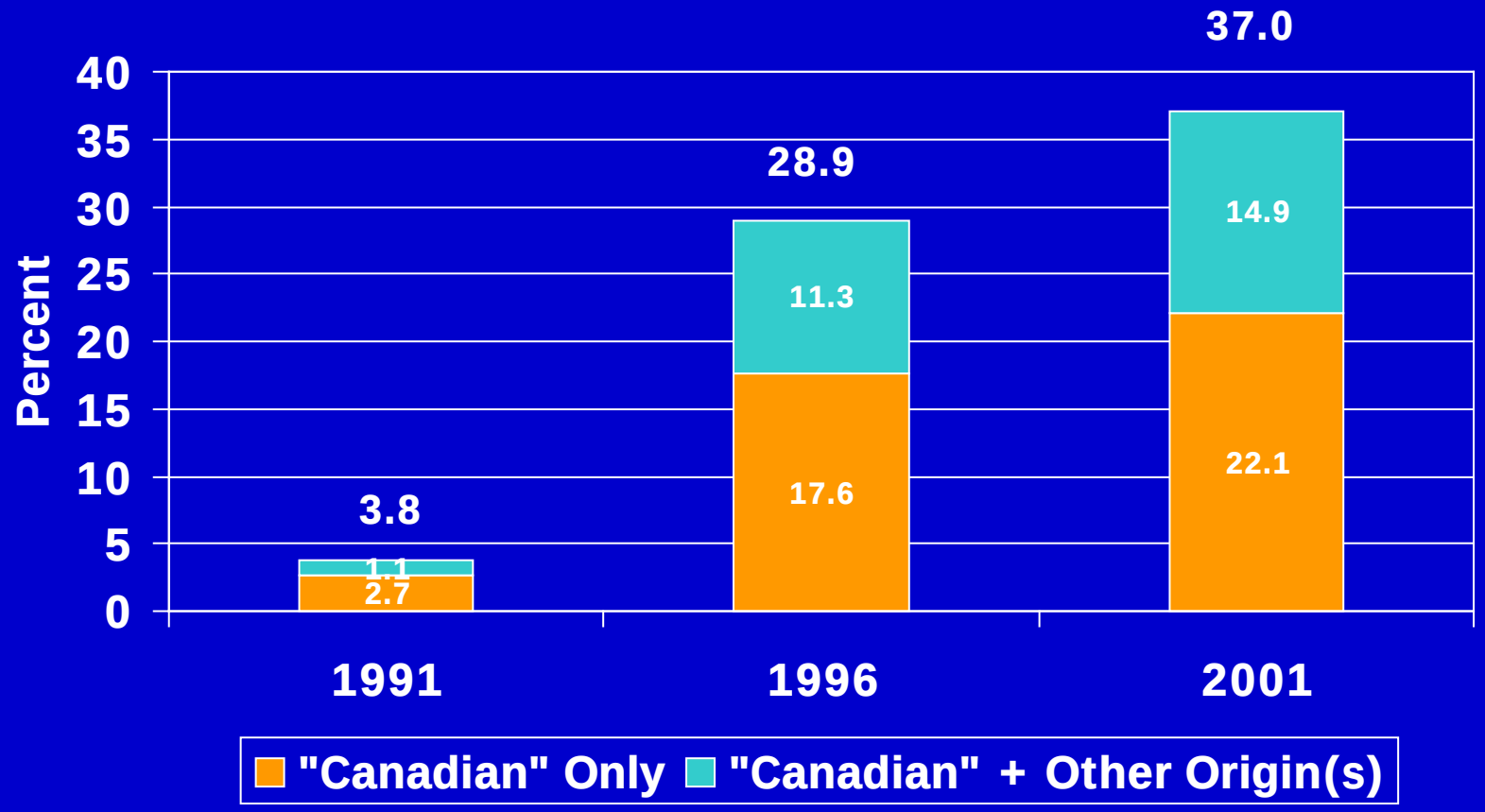
21

22

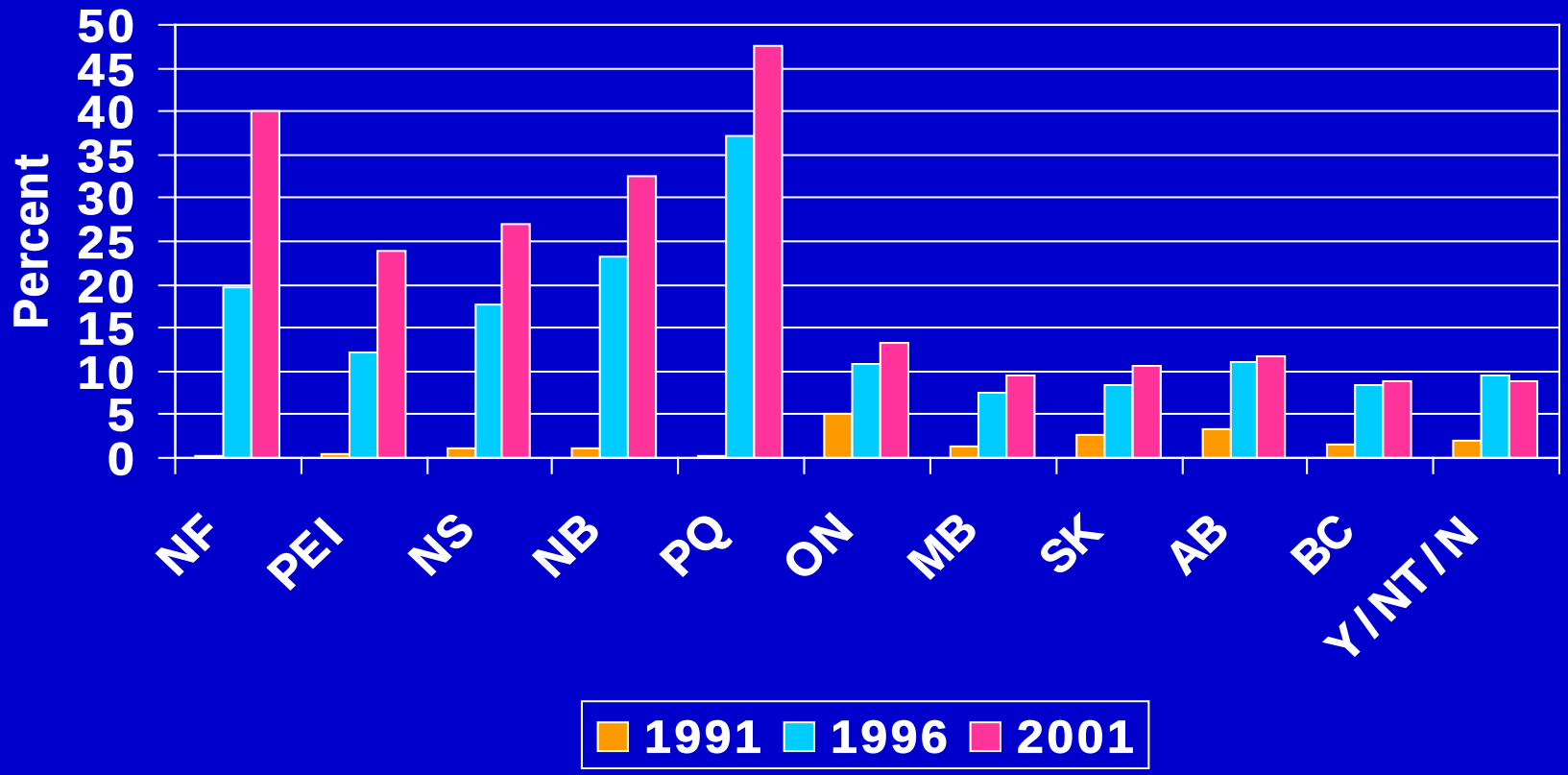
METHODS

- LIMIT ANALYSIS TO PERSONS 15 YEARS AND OLDER
- DESCRIPTIVE AND MULTIVARIATE ANALYSES

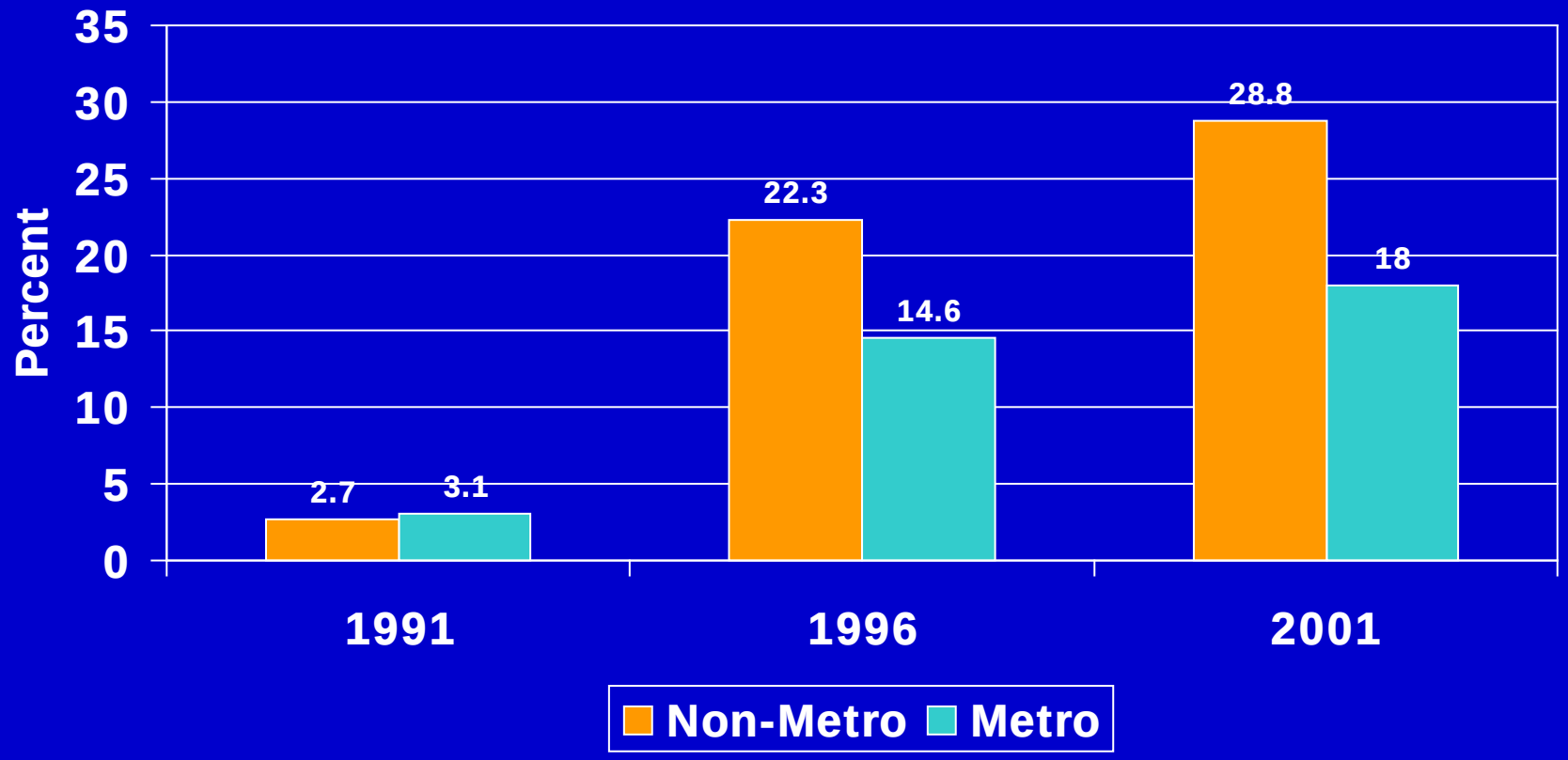
MORE ARE CHOOSING “CANADIAN” ETHNIC ORIGIN ONLY OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER ORIGINS



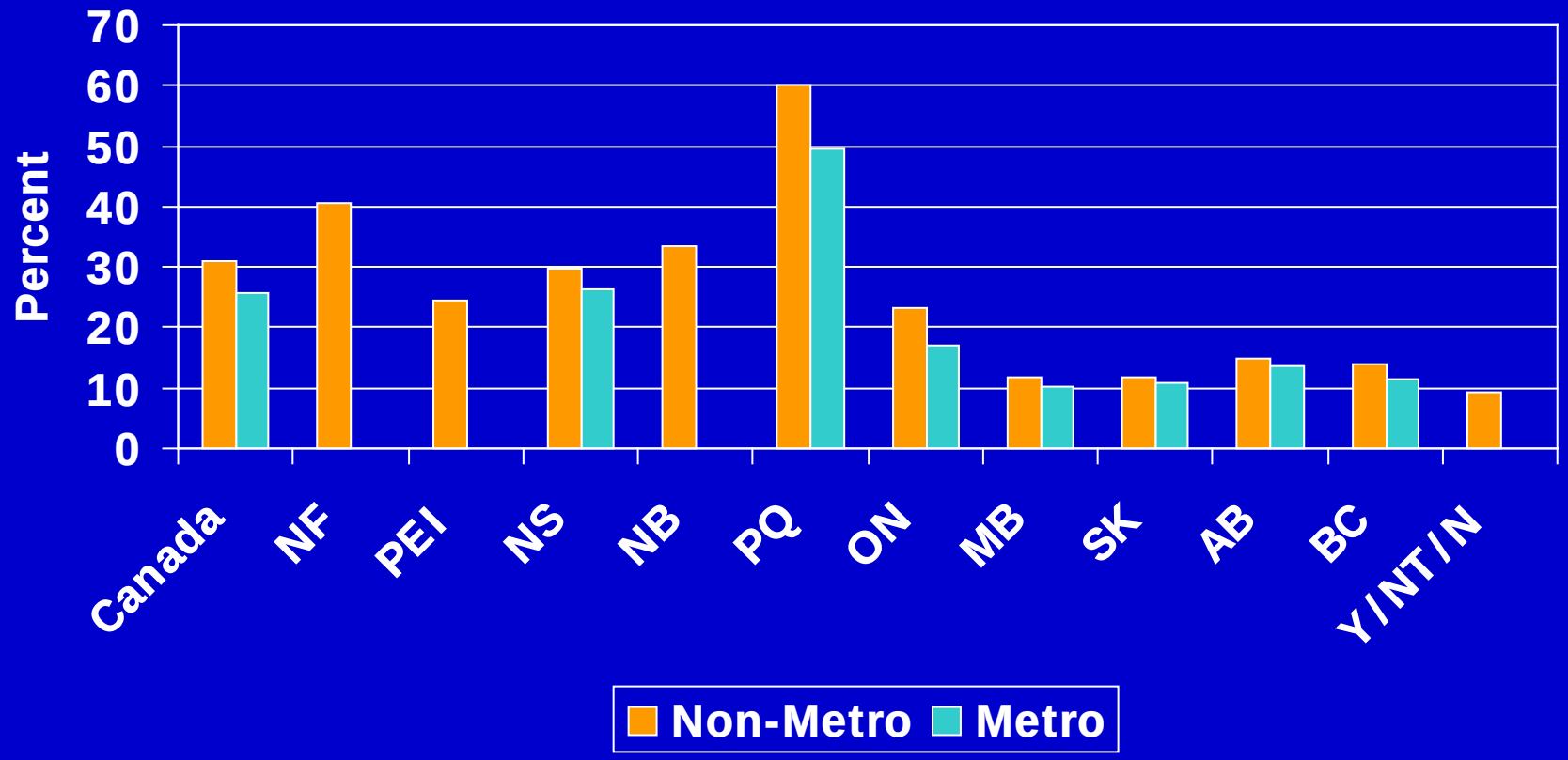
OVERALL TREND OF INCREASE WITH LARGE DIFFERENCES ACROSS PROVINCES



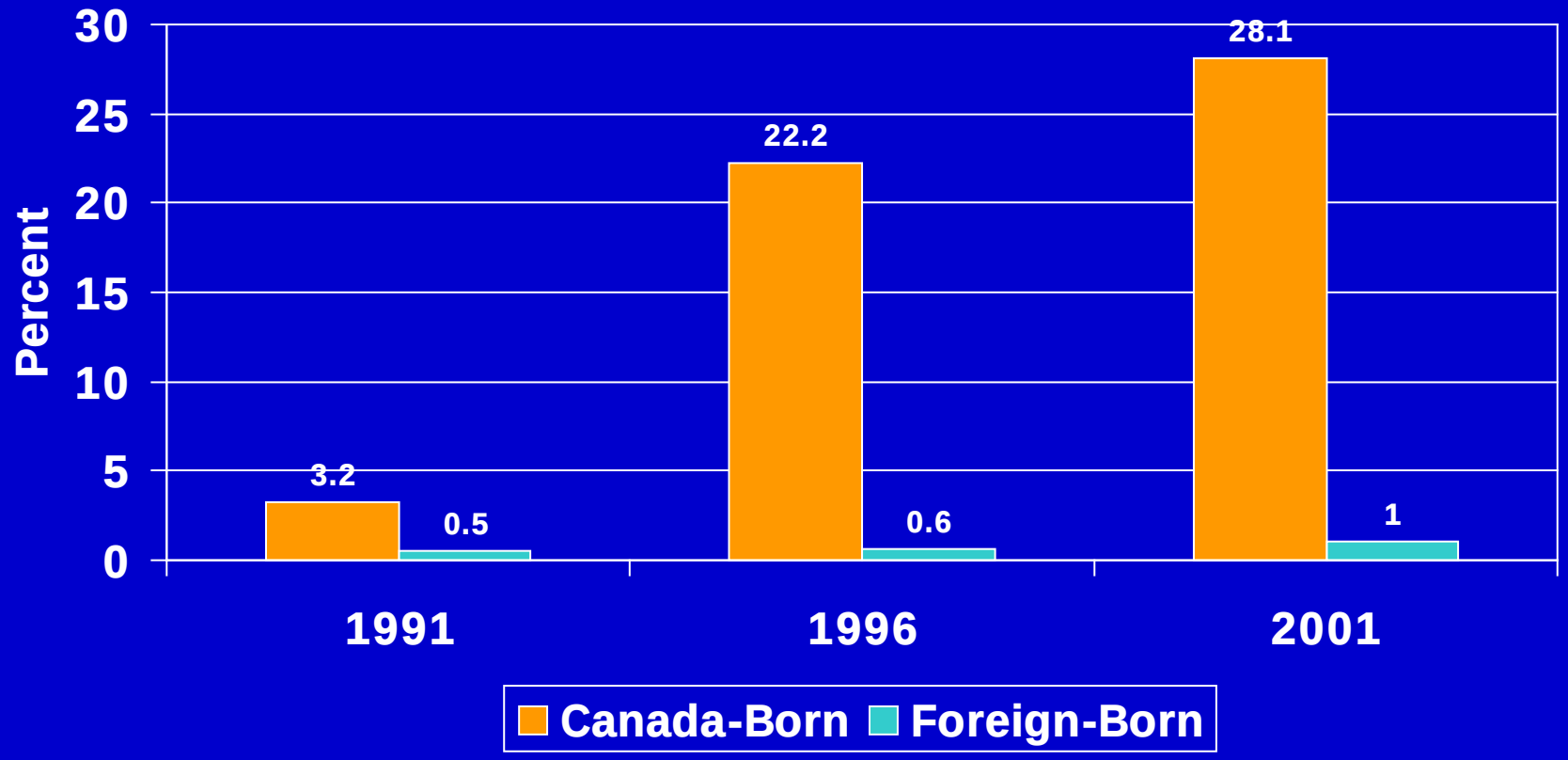
NON-METRO RESIDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO CHOOSE "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN



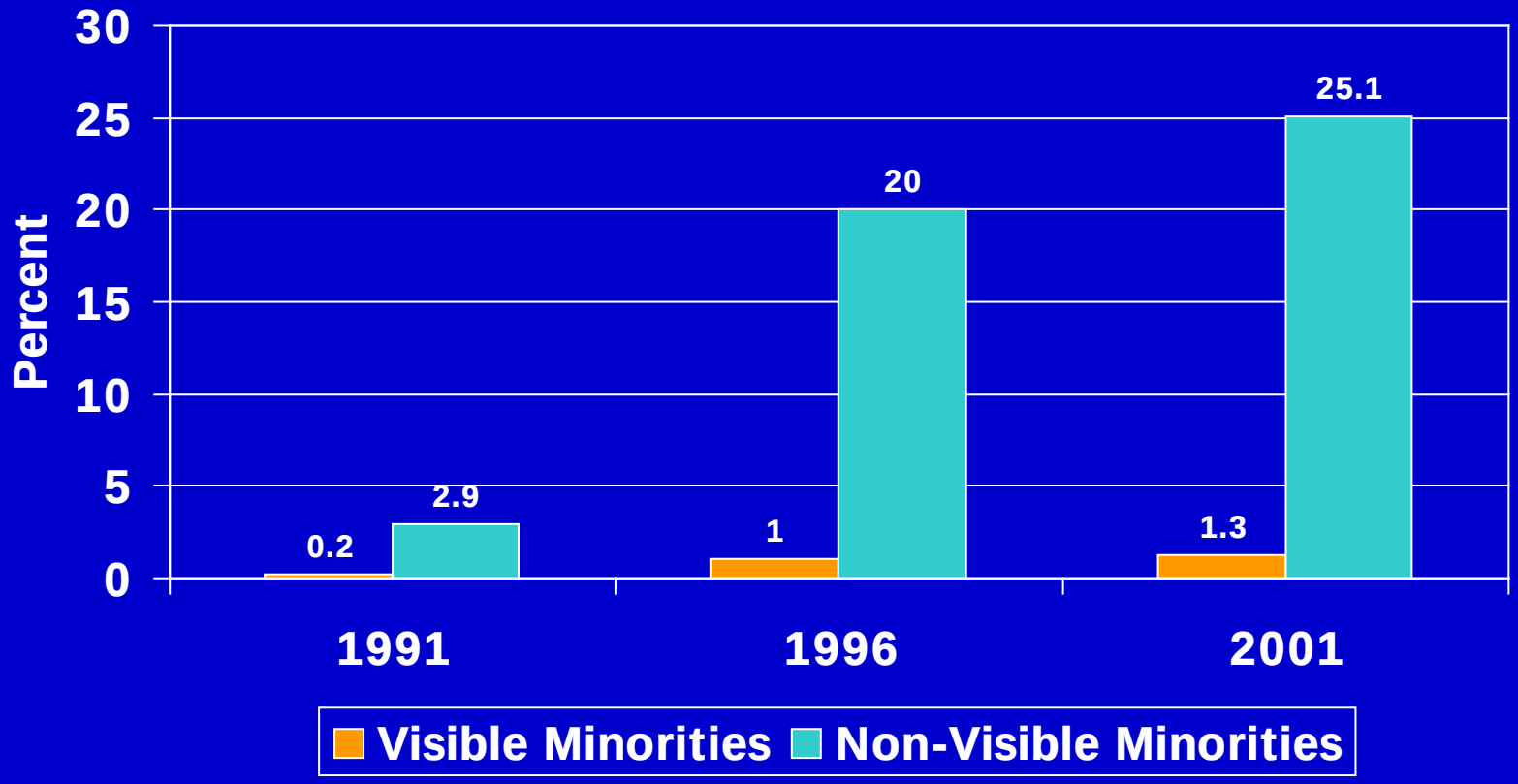
NON-METRO/METRO DIFFERENCE IS OBSERVED IN ALL PROVINCES: EXAMPLE FROM 2001



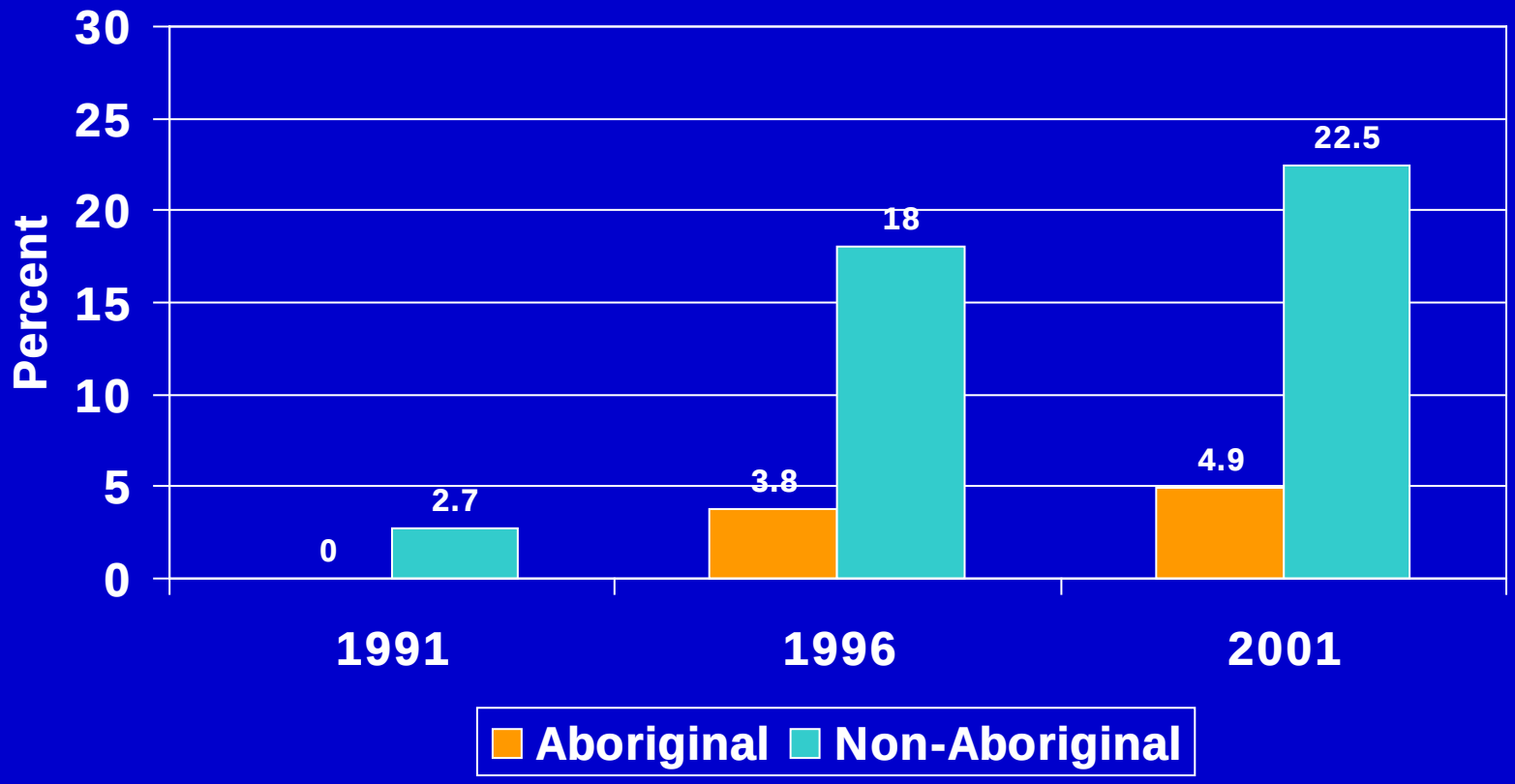
FEW IMMIGRANTS CHOOSE “CANADIAN” ETHNIC ORIGIN



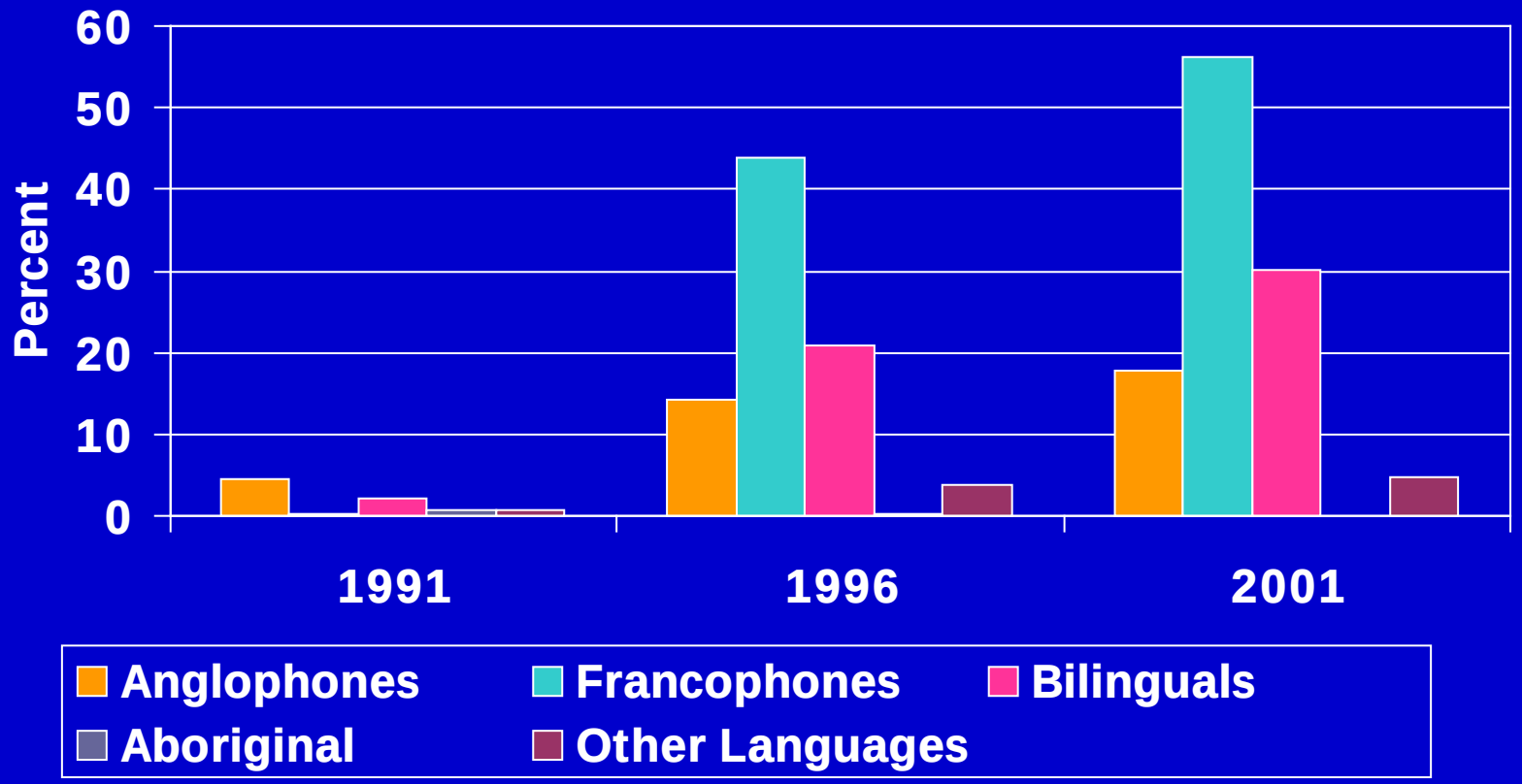
FEW VISIBLE MINORITIES CHOOSE "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN



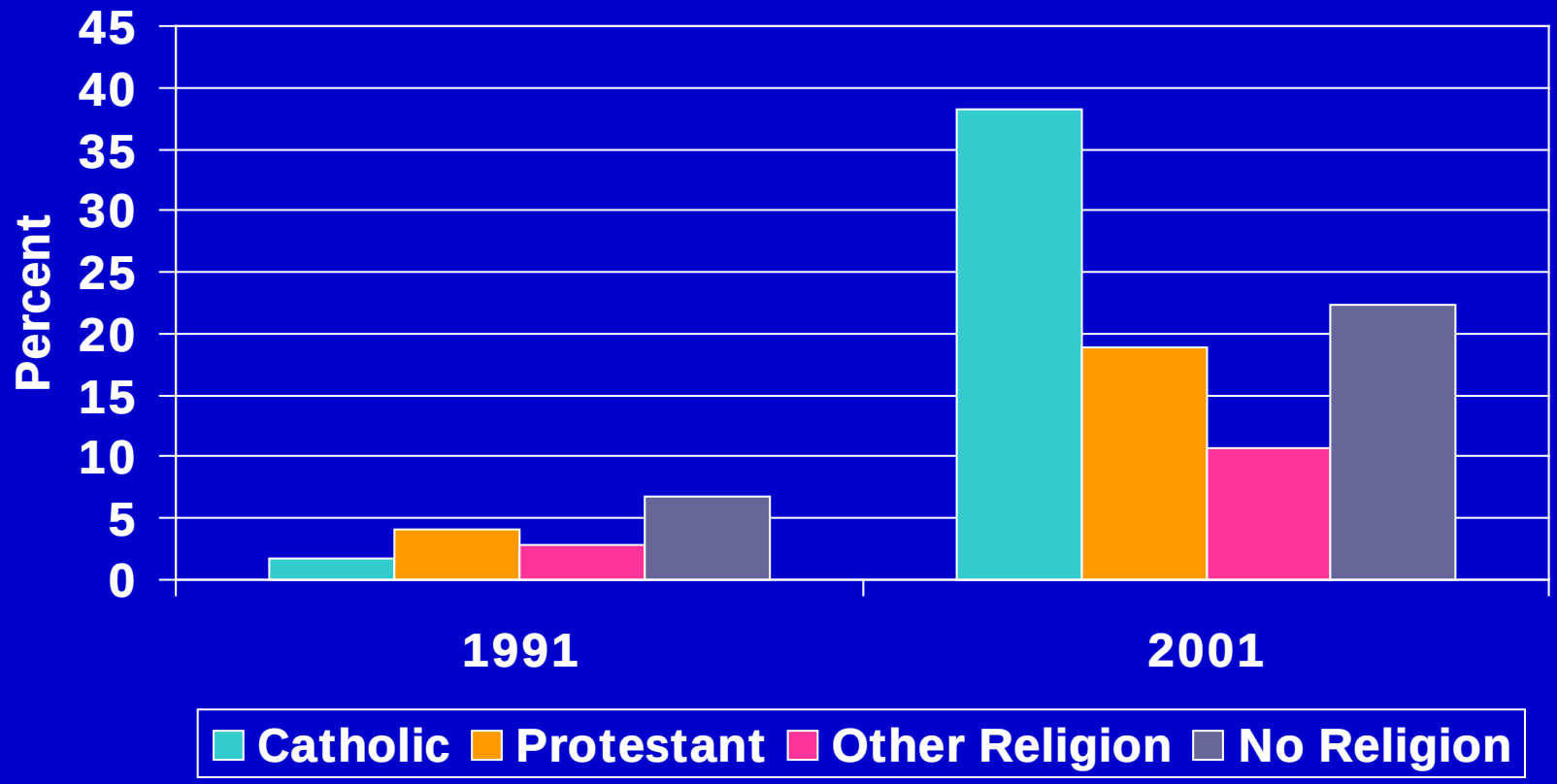
FEW ABORIGINAL PEOPLES CHOOSE "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN



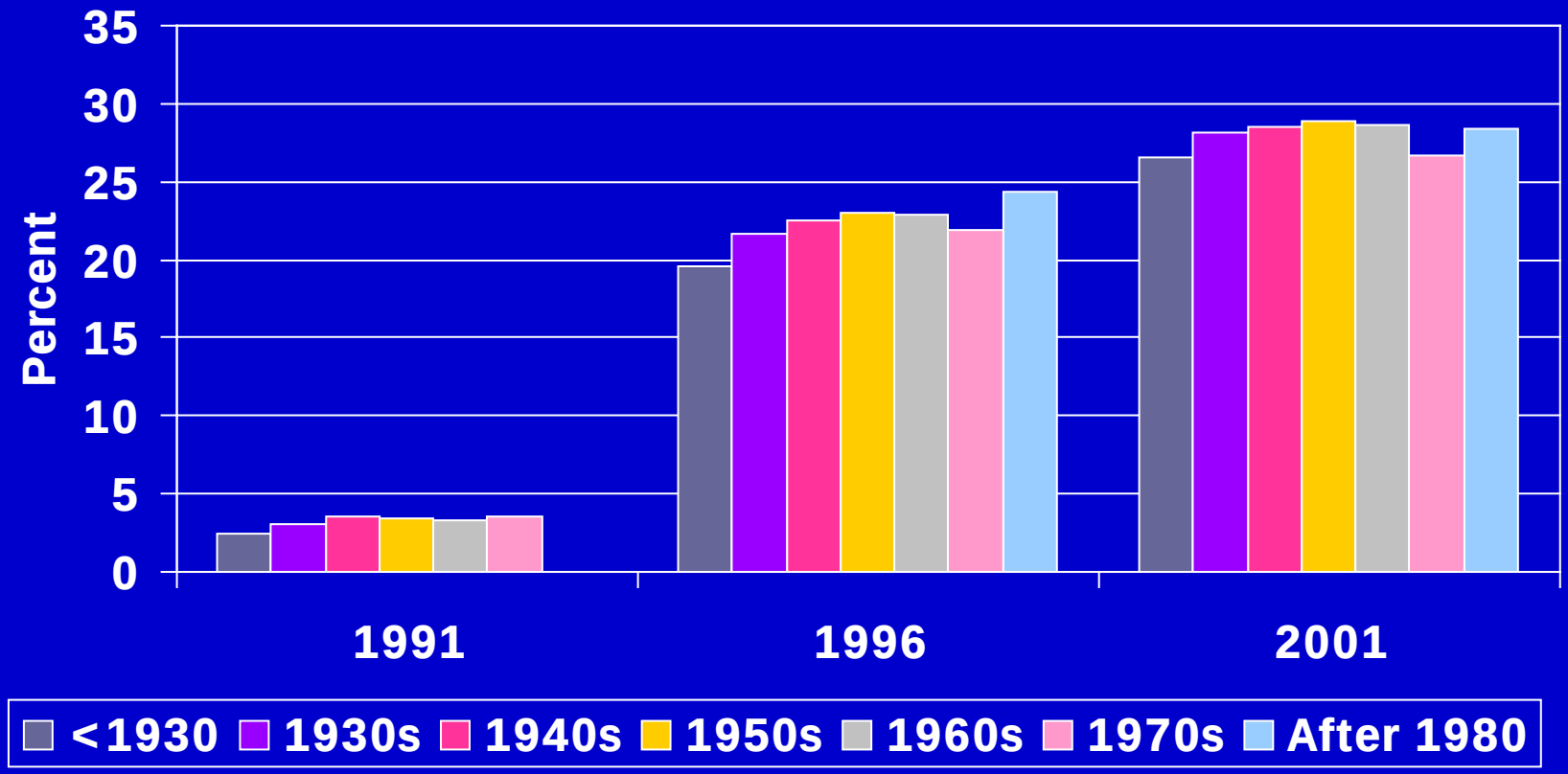
SINCE 1996, FRANCOPHONES ARE MORE LIKELY TO CHOOSE "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN



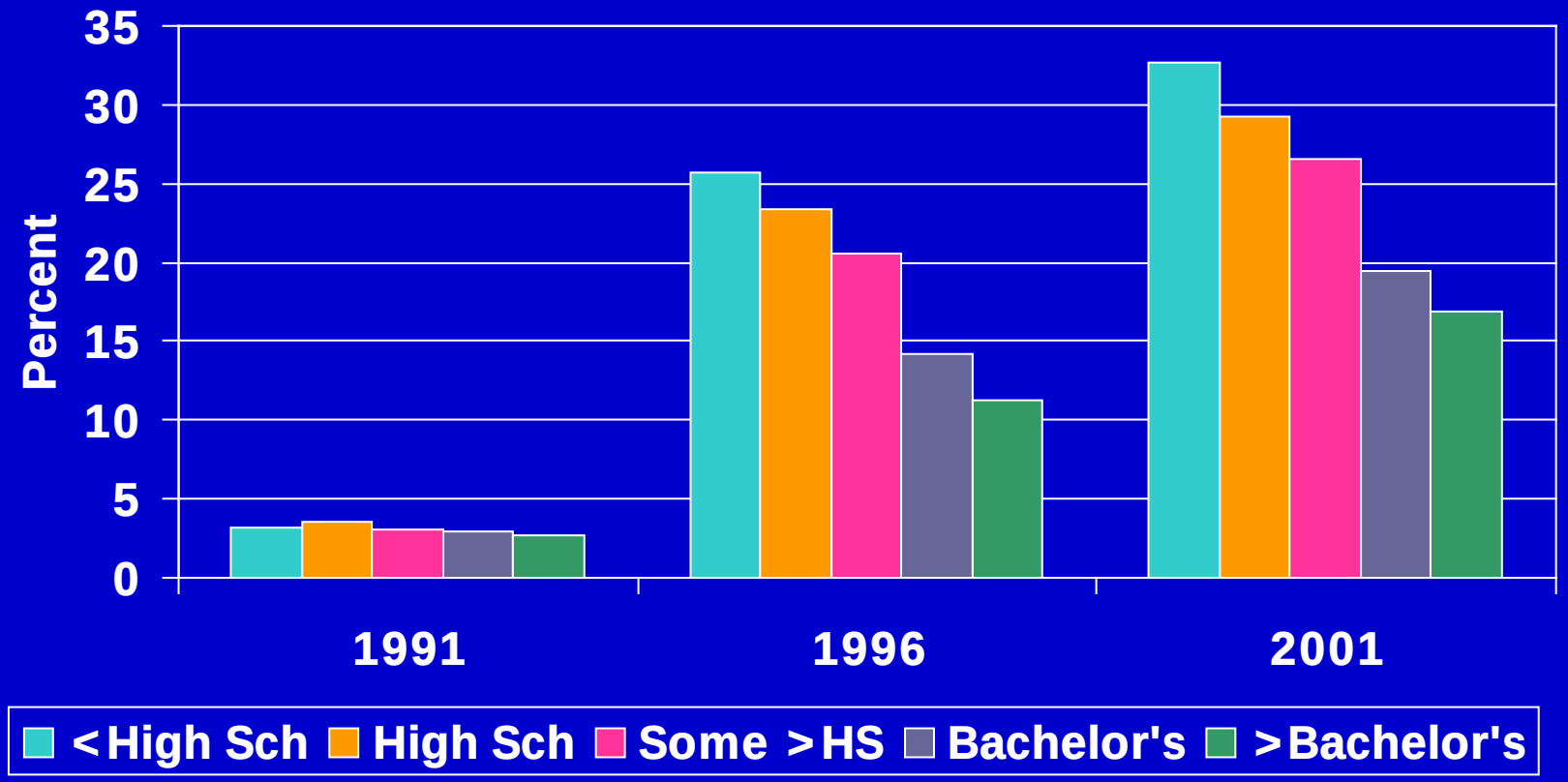
SINCE 1991, CATHOLICS ARE MORE LIKELY TO CHOOSE “CANADIAN” ETHNIC ORIGIN



SMALL BIRTH COHORT DIFFERENCES IN CHOOSING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN



PERCENT CHOOSING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN DECLINES WITH INCREASED EDUCATION



LOGISTIC REGRESSION MODEL

- DEPENDENT VARIABLE:

  "CANADIAN" AS ONLY RESPONSE TO ETHNIC ORIGIN QUESTION

- INDEPENDENT VARIABLES:

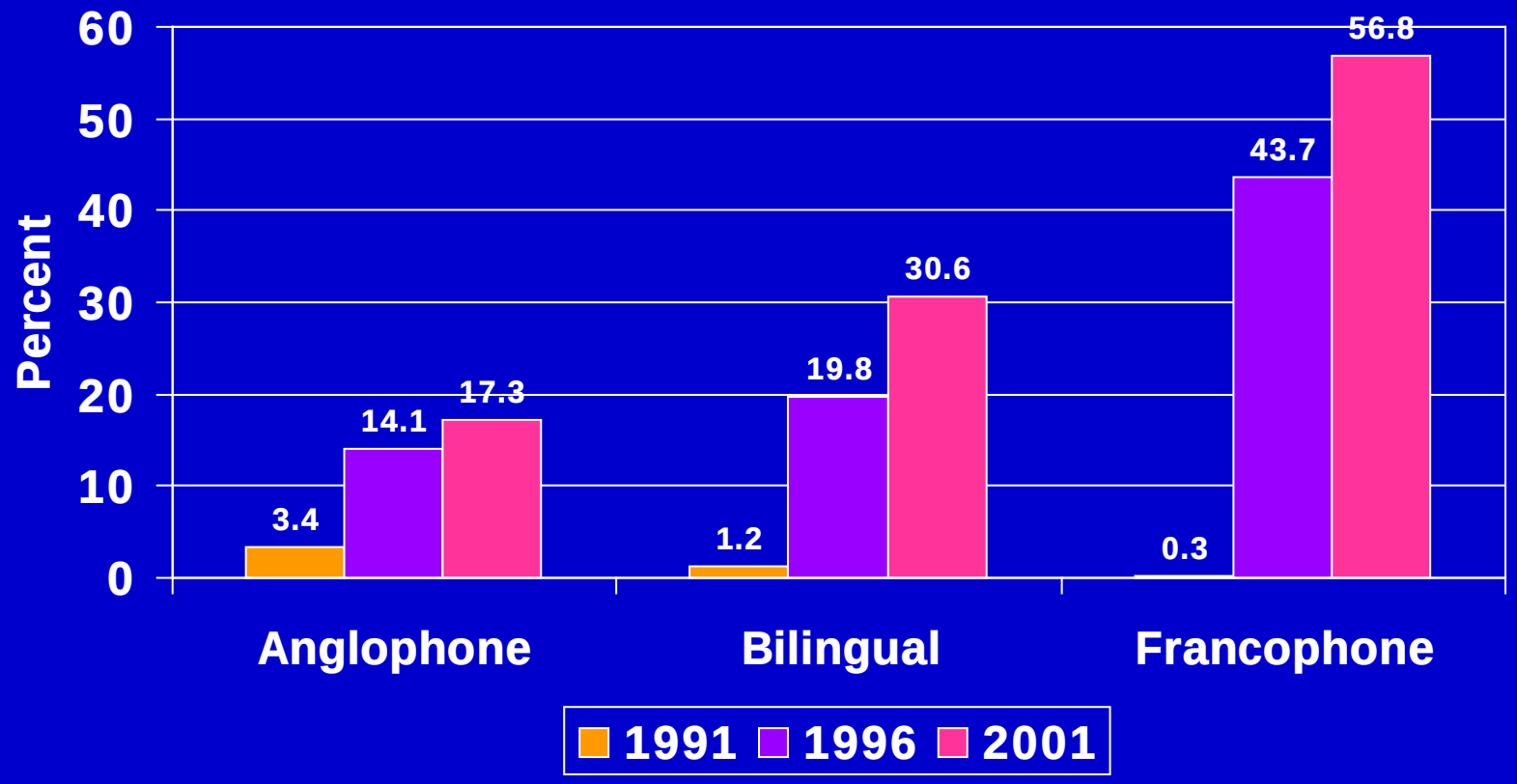
  SEX, BIRTH COHORT, MARITAL STATUS, RELIGION (1991 & 2001), PROVINCE, METRO/NON-METRO RESIDENCE, EDUCATION, HOUSEHOLD INCOME

- ESTIMATE MODEL SEPARATELY FOR ANGLOPHONES, FRANCOPHONES, AND BILINGUALS, FOR EACH CENSUS YEAR

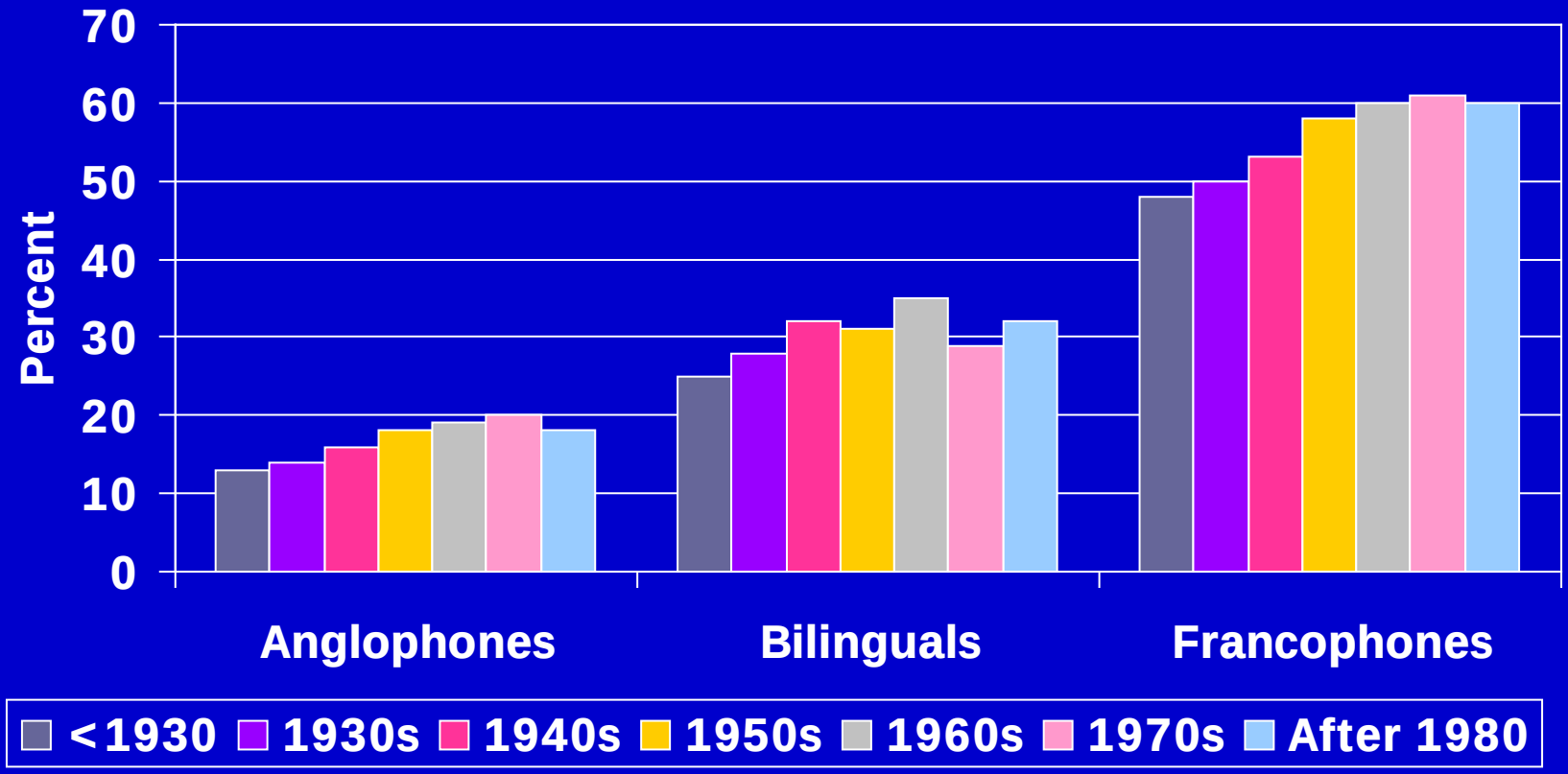
LOGISTIC REGRESSION RESULTS

- USED COEFFICIENTS FROM LOGISTIC REGRESSION (LOGITS) TO PRODUCE PREDICTED PROBABILITIES
- MULTIPLIED PROBABILITIES BY 100 TO PRODUCE PERCENTS IN REPORTING RESULTS

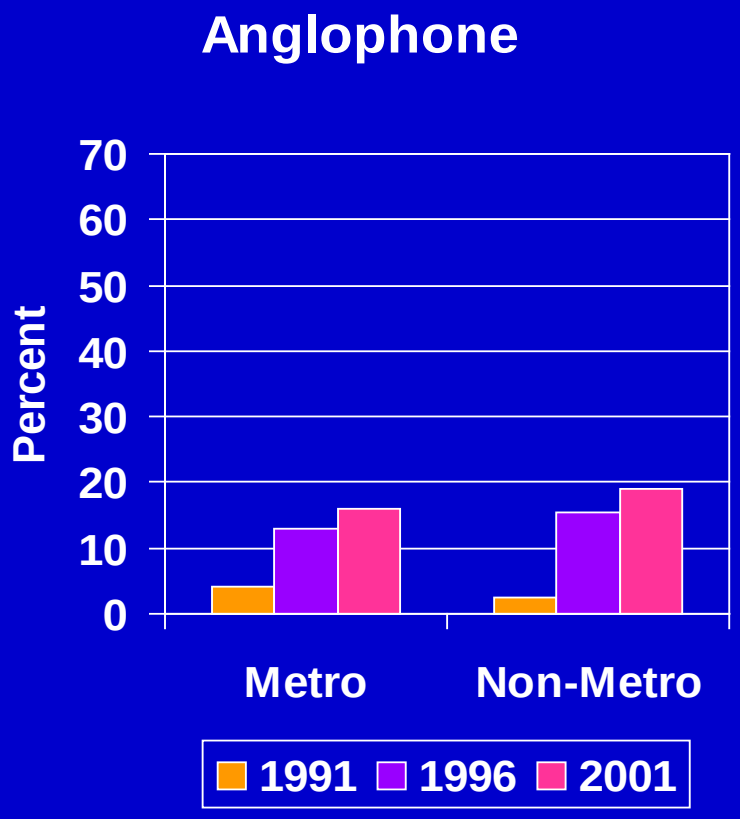
Probability of Reporting “Canadian” Ethnic Origin: Language Groups, 1991, 1996, 2001

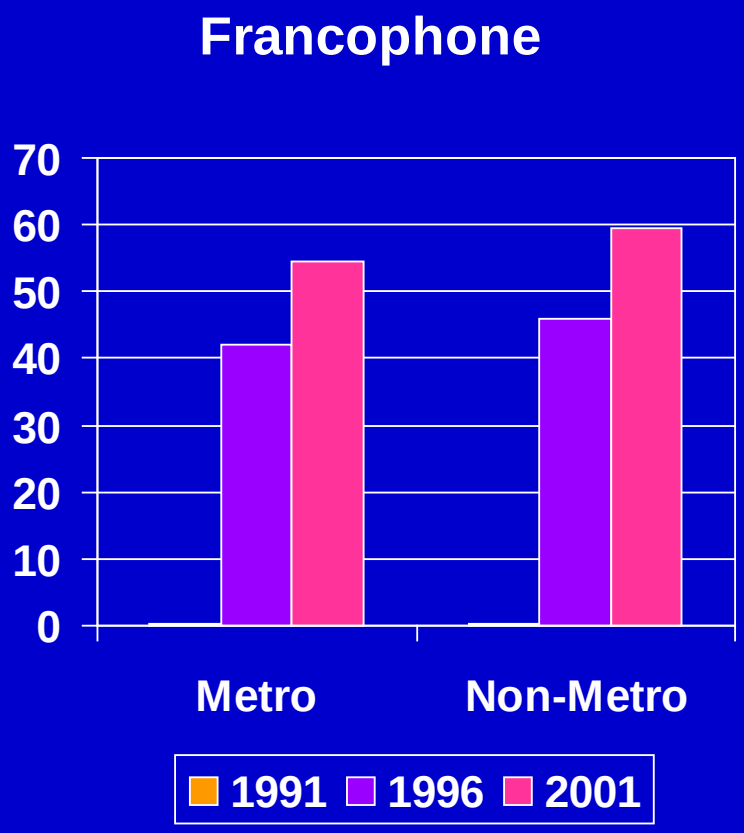


Probability of Reporting “Canadian” Ethnic Origin by Birth Cohort, 2001

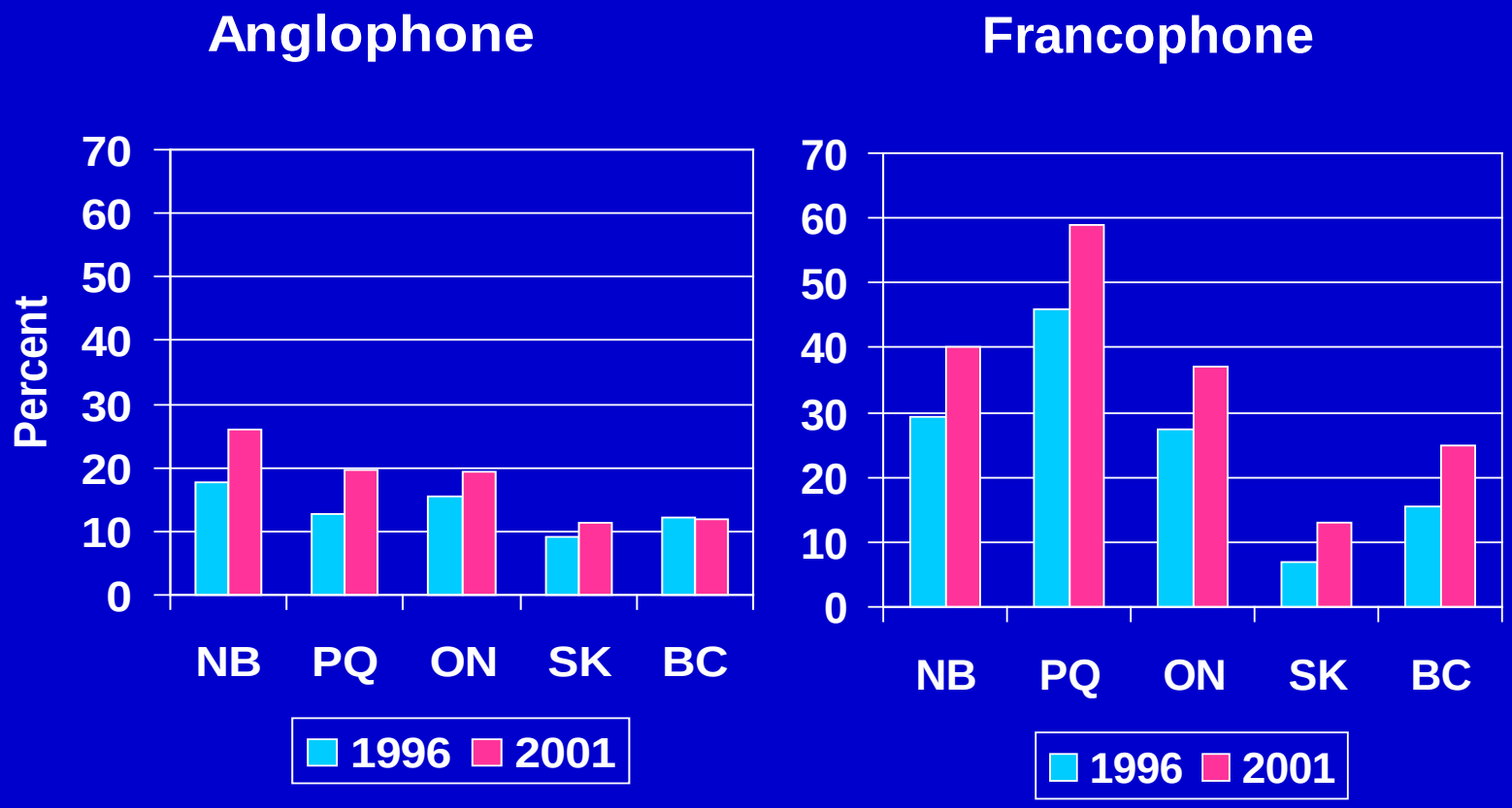


Probability of Reporting "Canadian" Ethnic Origin: Metropolitan / Non-Metropolitan Residence, 1991, 1996, 2001

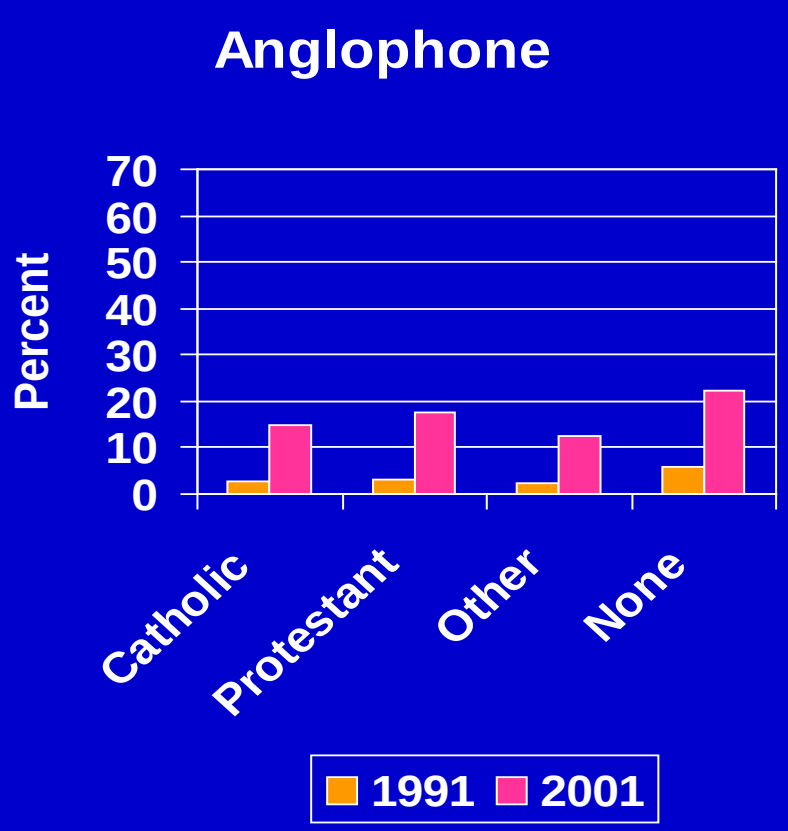


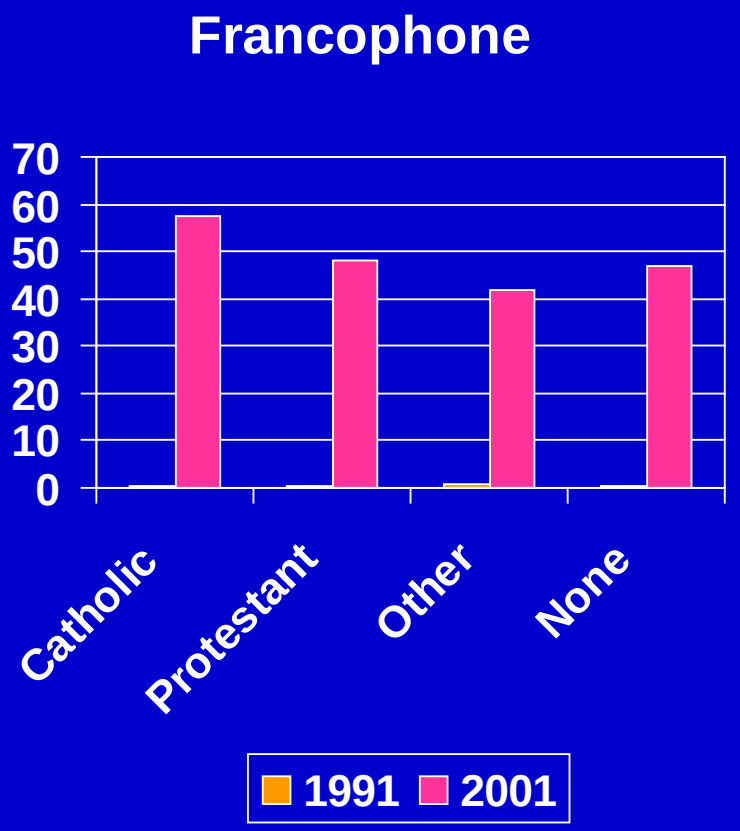


Probability of Reporting “Canadian” Ethnic Origin: Selected Provinces, 1996, 2001

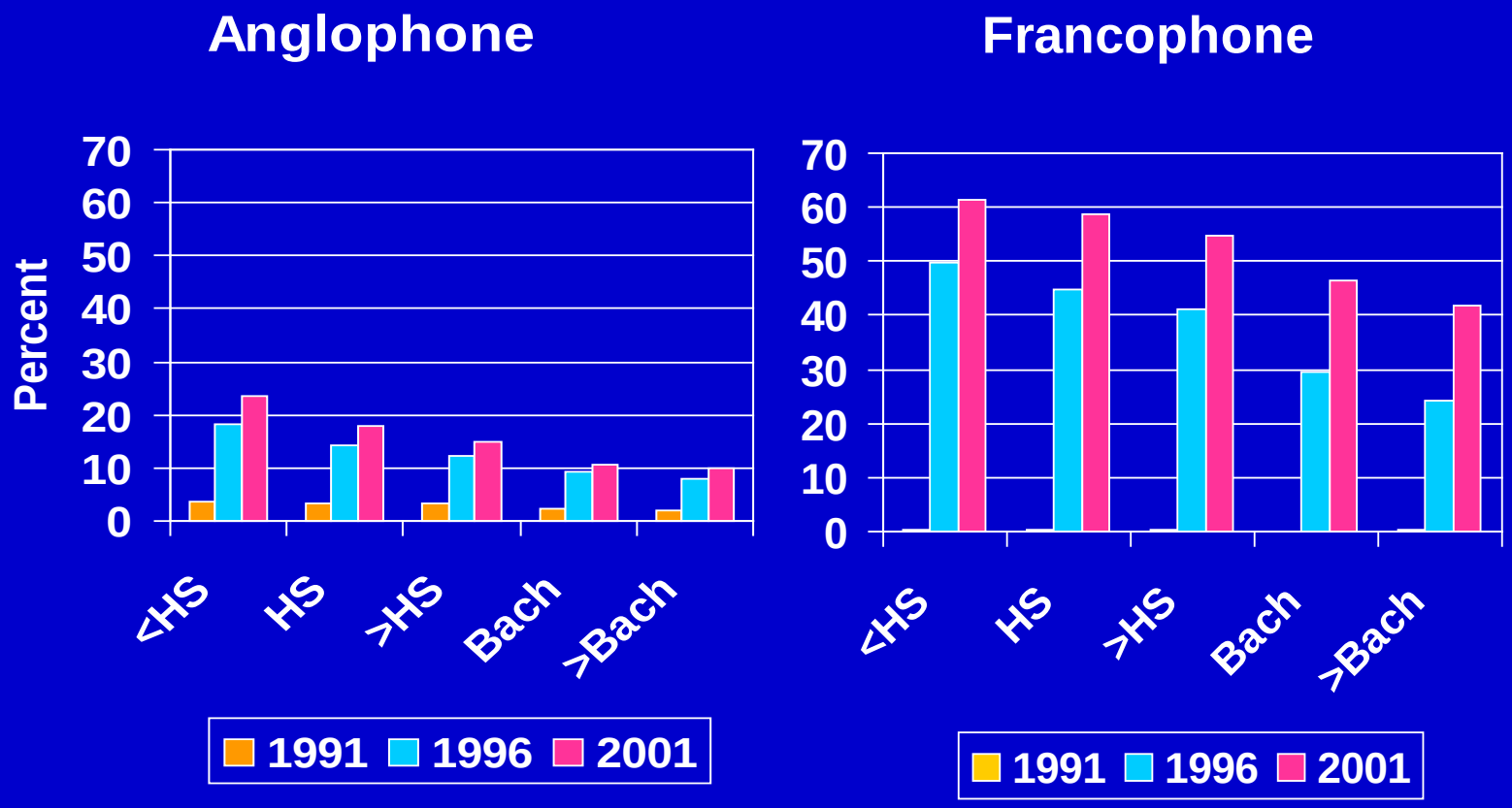


Probability of Reporting "Canadian" Ethnic Origin: Religion, 1991 and 2001





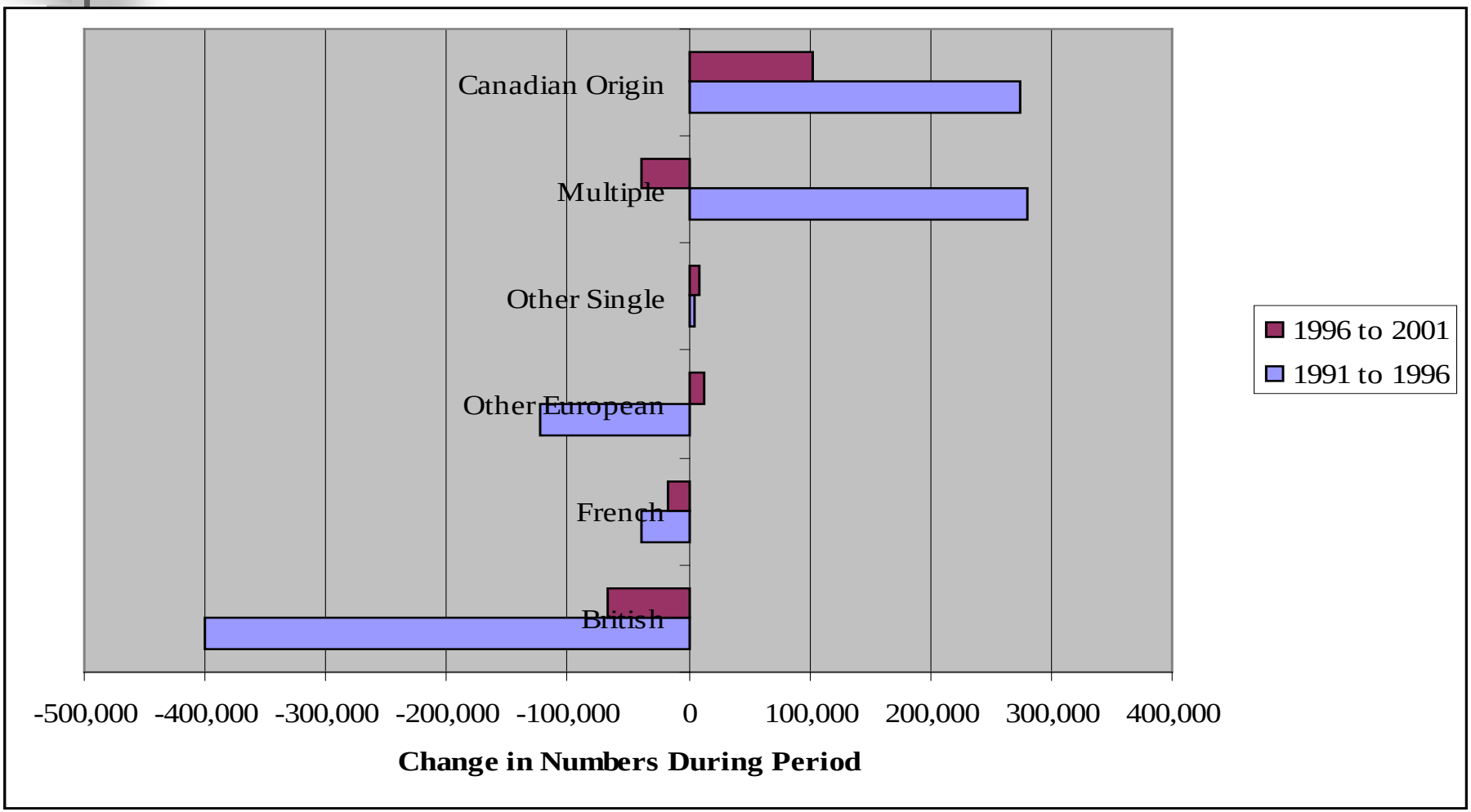
Probability of Reporting “Canadian” Ethnic Origin: Education, 1991, 1996, 2001



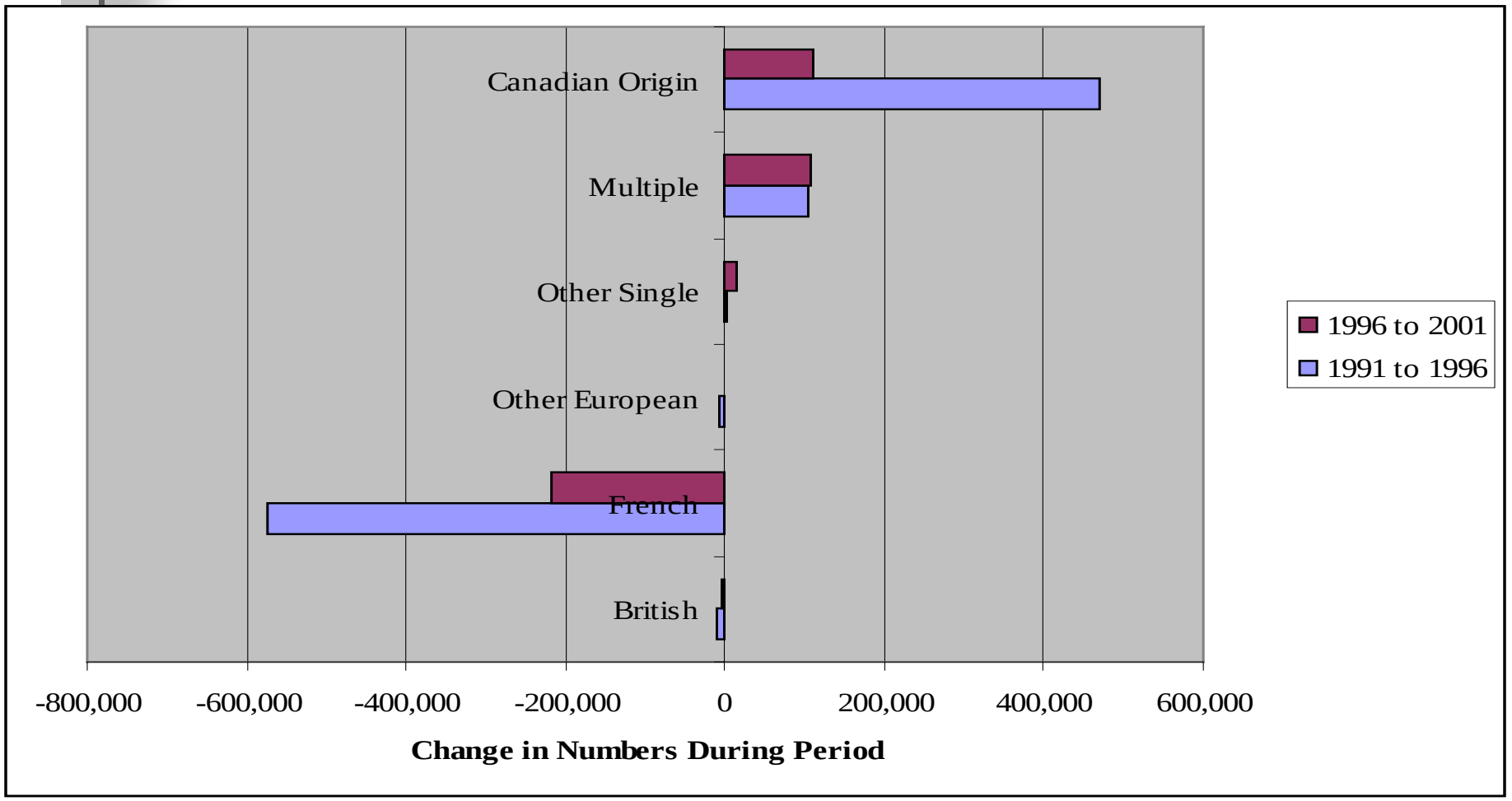
SUMMARY & DISCUSSION OF MAIN FINDINGS

- INCREASED TREND OF REPORTING "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN BUT IS NOT ACROSS-THE-BOARD
- PRIMARILY MOVEMENT OUT OF "BRITISH" AND "FRENCH" ETHNIC ORIGINS TO "CANADIAN" ETHNIC ORIGIN

ANGLOPHONES: 1960s BIRTH COHORT



FRANCOPHONES: 1960s BIRTH COHORT



MORE MAIN FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

- MOSTLY CONFINED TO PERSONS BORN IN CANADA
- DIFFERENCES BY EDUCATION, BIRTH COHORT, RELIGION, PROVINCE
- FRANCOPHONE BACKGROUND IS KEY FACTOR

DISCUSSION: COMMON FACTORS

- ARTIFACTUAL EFFECT
- LONG HISTORY
- REACTION TO INCREASED IMMIGRATION
- DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS OF MARGINALIZATION
- LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

DISCUSSION: DIFFERENT FACTORS

- FRANCOPHONES:
  - “CANADIEN” AS PRE-EXISTING IDENTITY
  - MAJORITY GROUP OR GROUP SIZE EFFECT

CONCLUSION: LIMITATIONS & FUTURE RESEARCH

- STUDY LIMITATIONS
- WHAT DOES “CANADIAN” OR “CANADIEN” MEAN?
- CHALLENGES FOR USERS OF DATA
- EXTEND ANALYSIS WITH 2006 CENSUS DATA
- COMPARATIVE RESEARCH ON NATIONAL ETHNIC ORIGIN AND IDENTITY

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