CYR⁐RC

The Impacts of Entry Programs and Gender on Economic Outcomes

Researchers: Monica Boyd, Shawn Perron

Summary

This study combined data from IRCC's entry visa information and the 2016 census of population records. Researchers tested for the possibility that different refugee groups have different economic outcomes based on their mode of entry (GAR, PSR, or PPC). Economic outcomes analysed include occupational locations and earnings, as defined by the 2016 census. Gender differences between and among refugee groups were also examined. This was achieved by producing six main groups of interest from the intersection of gender with the three refugee classes.
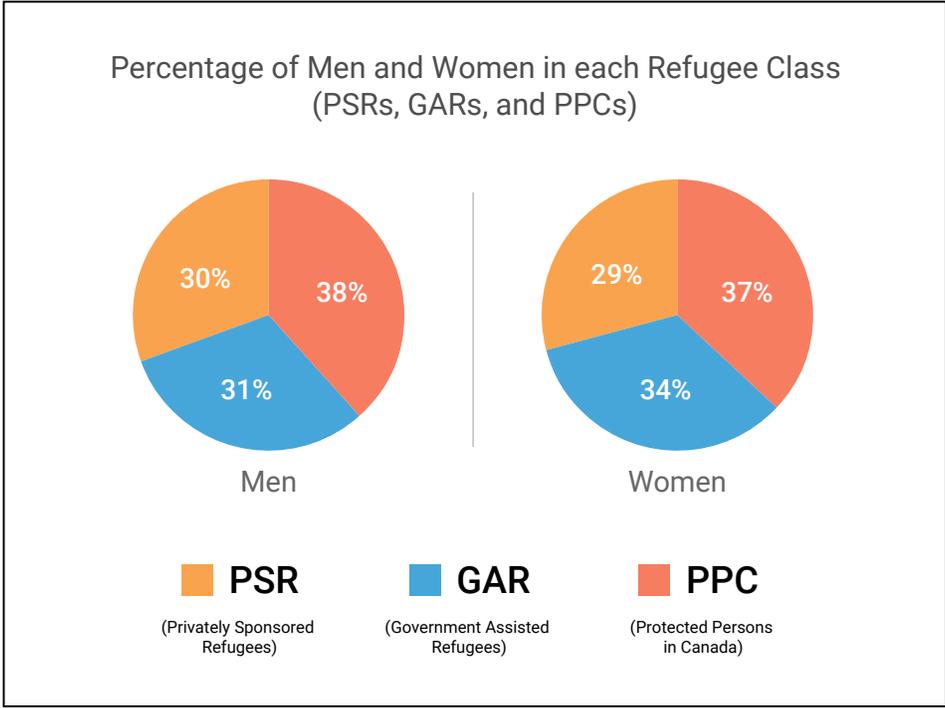
Immigration characteristics (region of origin, decade of admission), social characteristics (education) and economic outcomes were compared across three main admission categories: economic immigrants, family-class immigrants, and refugee, separately for women and men.

Part 1: Refugee Entry Groups: Privately Sponsored, Government Sponsored, Protected Persons

Who is included in these charts?

The population under study consists of permanent residents admitted to Canada between 1980 and 2014 in one of three refugee categories – Privately Sponsored Refugee (PSR), Government Assisted Refugee (GARs), and Protected Persons in Canada (PPC). Individuals included in the study arrived at age 20 or older, at the time of the 2016 Census of Canada, resided in a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA, defined as having a population of 100,000 or more), and were aged 20-64.

These specifications captured most individuals who fell within the primary locations and ages to be part of Canada's labour market.

Percentage of Men and Women in each Refugee Class
(PSRs, GARs, and PPCs)

Men

- PSR: 30%
- GAR: 31%
- PPC: 38%

Women

- PSR: 29%
- GAR: 34%
- PPC: 37%

PSR (Privately Sponsored Refugees)
GAR (Government Assisted Refugees)
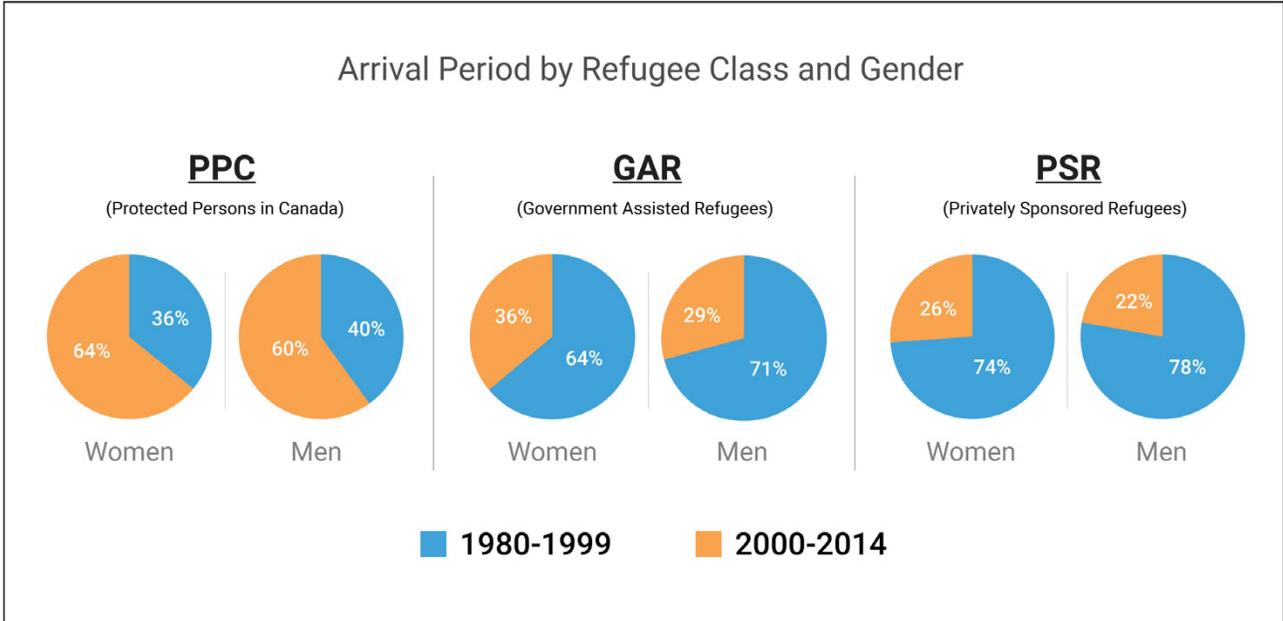**PPC** (Protected Persons in Canada)

Nearly 4 out of 10 of the refugees studied entered as privately sponsored refugees. Women were slightly more likely than men to enter as GARs, but overall, gender differences were small.
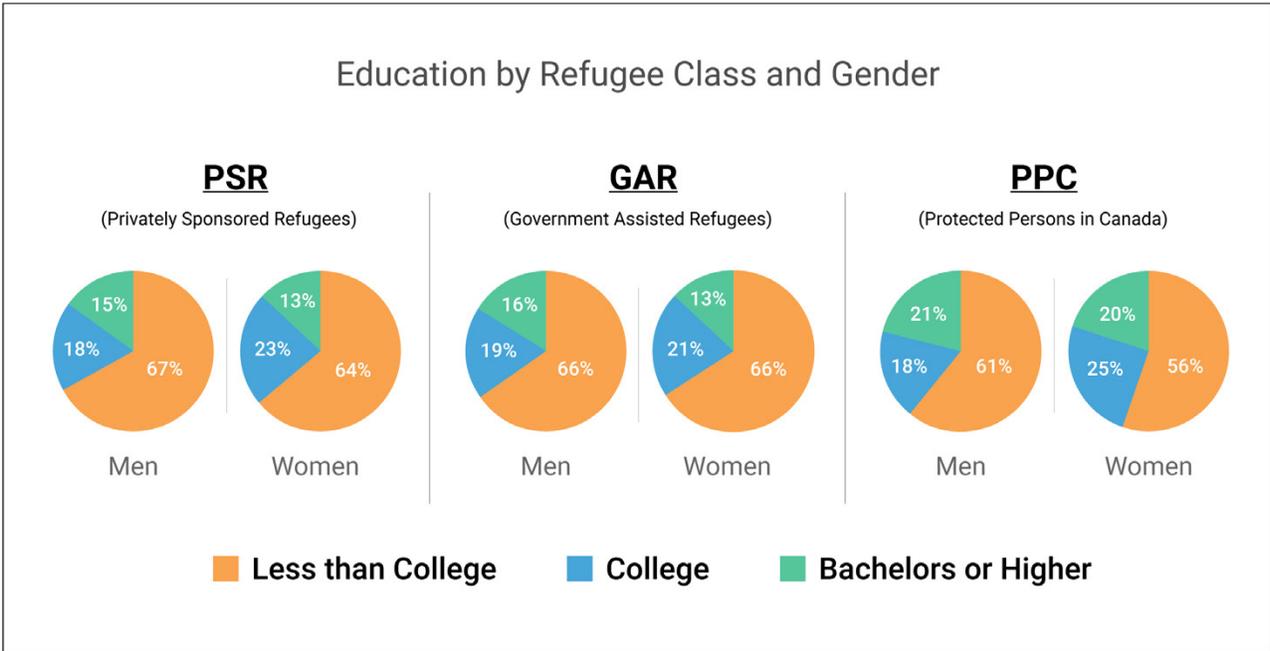
Six Largest Source Countries by Refugee Class and Gender

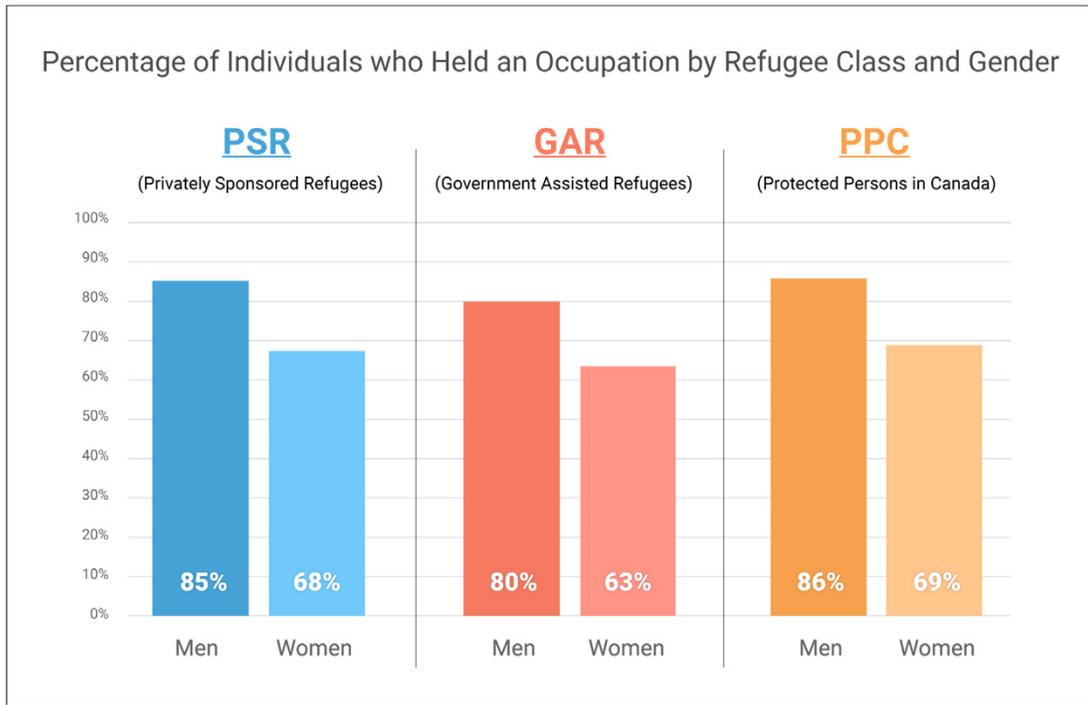| PSR (Privately Sponsored Refugees)		GAR (Government Assisted Refugees)		PPC (Protected Persons in Canada)	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
Poland	Poland	Vietnam	Vietnam	Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
Vietnam	Vietnam	Bosnia & Herzegovin	Bosnia & Herzegovin	China	Colombia
Iraq	Iraq	Poland	Afghanistan	Pakistan	China
Afghanistan	Afghanistan	Iraq	Poland	Colombia	Somalia
Sri Lanka	Ethiopia	Iran	Iraq	Iran	Pakistan
Ethiopia	Loas, Cambodia	Afghanistan	El Salvador	India	Iran

Looking at the six major birth countries, most PSRs were from Poland, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. These source countries were also represented in the GAR category; however, in the GAR and the PPC categories, Bosnia & Herzegovin, Iran, Sri Lanka and other countries are among the top six countries of birth.

Arrival Period by Refugee Class and Gender

PPC
(Protected Persons in Canada)

Women
- 36% (1980-1999)
- 64% (2000-2014)

Men
- 40% (1980-1999)
- 60% (2000-2014)

GAR
(Government Assisted Refugees)

Women
- 64% (1980-1999)
- 36% (2000-2014)

Men
- 71% (1980-1999)
- 29% (2000-2014)

PSR
(Privately Sponsored Refugees)

Women
- 74% (1980-1999)
- 26% (2000-2014)

Men
- 78% (1980-1999)
- 22% (2000-2014)
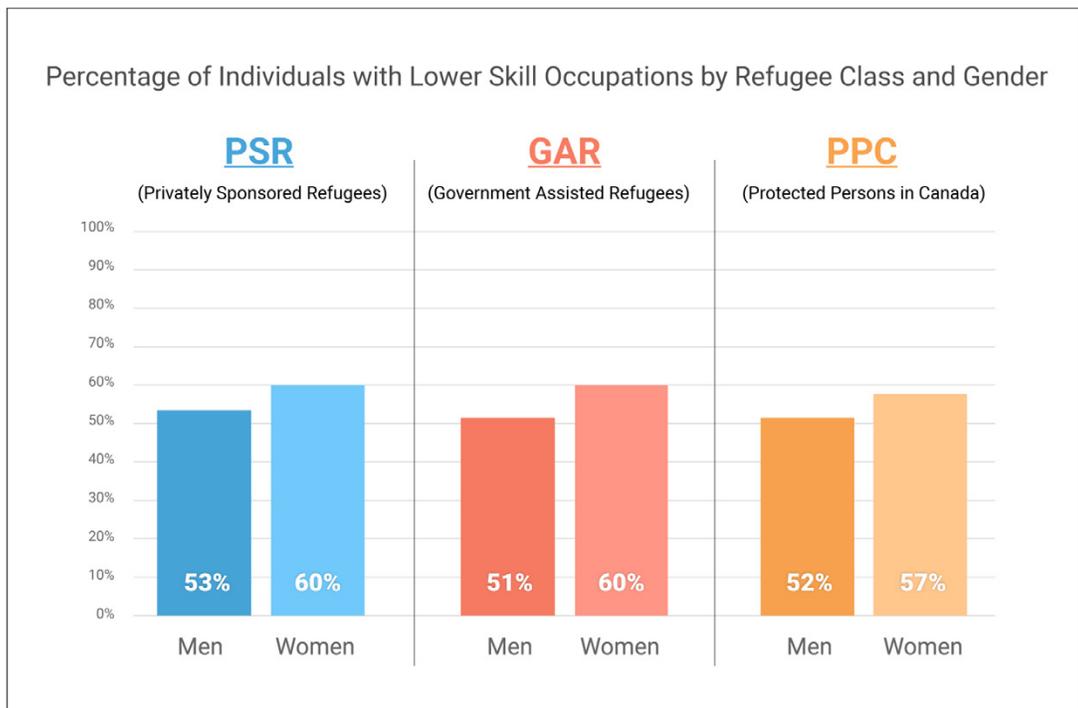
Legend: ■ 1980-1999 ■ 2000-2014

Most persons entering Canada in the PPC category arrived between 2000-2014. This is consistent with the fact that data collection for the PPC class began after 1990. Processing of applications in the GAR and PSR classes has a longer history.

Education by Refugee Class and Gender

PSR
(Privately Sponsored Refugees)

Men
- 15% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 18% (College)
- 67% (Less than College)

Women
- 13% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 23% (College)
- 64% (Less than College)

GAR
(Government Assisted Refugees)

Men
- 16% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 19% (College)
- 66% (Less than College)

Women
- 13% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 21% (College)
- 66% (Less than College)

PPC
(Protected Persons in Canada)

Men
- 21% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 18% (College)
- 61% (Less than College)

Women
- 20% (Bachelors or Higher)
- 25% (College)
- 56% (Less than College)

Legend: ■ Less than College ■ College ■ Bachelors or Higher

Educational attainments were similar for PSRs and GARs. For both categories, a slightly lower percentage of women had attained bachelors' degrees or higher levels of education. Compared to PSR and GARs, a higher percentage of PPCs had attained a bachelor's degree or higher level of education. This was true for both genders.

Percentage of Individuals who Held an Occupation by Refugee Class and Gender

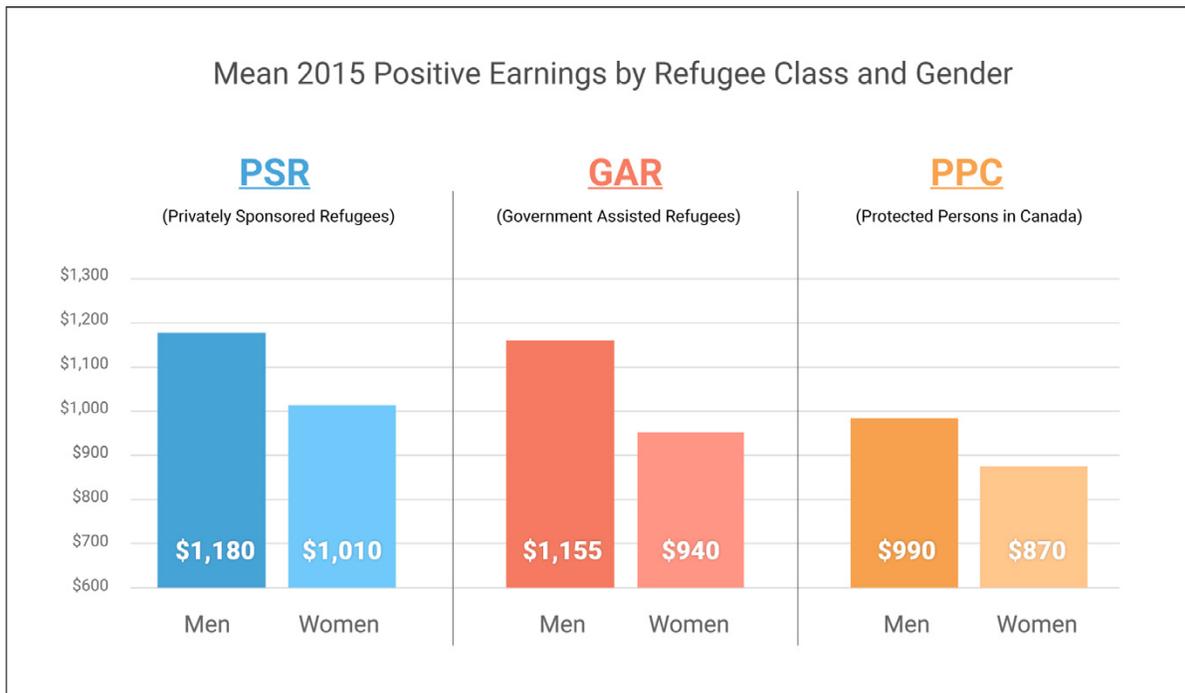| PSR (Privately Sponsored Refugees)		GAR (Government Assisted Refugees)		PPC (Protected Persons in Canada)	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
85%	68%	80%	63%	86%	69%

Compared to other refugee categories, a lower number of GARs were participating in the labour market in 2015. In all refugee entry groups, fewer women than men were participating in the labour market.

Percentage of Individuals with Lower Skill Occupations by Refugee Class and Gender

PSR (Privately Sponsored Refugees)		GAR (Government Assisted Refugees)		PPC (Protected Persons in Canada)	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
53%	60%	51%	60%	52%	57%

In all categories, slightly more than half of men worked in lower skilled occupations. In all categories, more women than men worked in lower skilled occupation.

* Lower skill occupations C & D are defined by ESDC as requiring some secondary school education with up to two years of on-the-job training, training courses or as having no formal educational requirements but having a short work demonstration or on-the-job training.

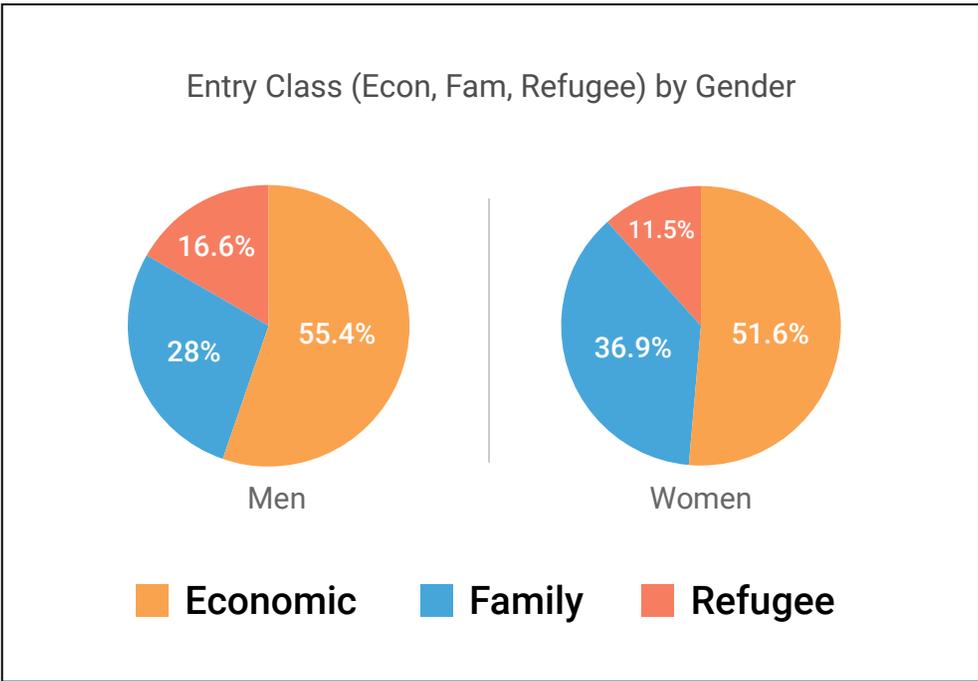Mean 2015 Positive Earnings by Refugee Class and Gender

For both genders, average 2015 employment earnings (positive income only) were highest for those admitted in the PSR category and lowest for those admitted in the PPC category. In all refugee categories, women earned less than men.

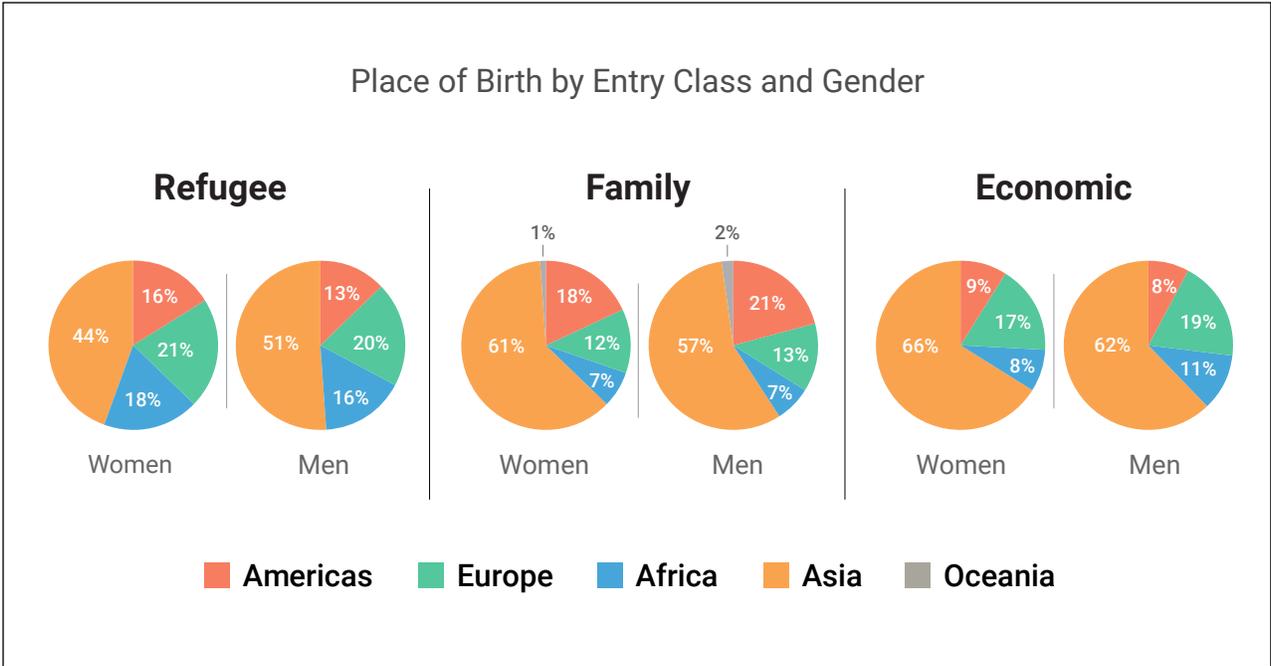## Part 2. Entry Groups: Family, Economic, and Refugee

Who is included in these charts?

The population under study in these charts consists of permanent residents admitted to Canada between 1980 and 2014 in one of three entry classes: Economic class, Family class, or Refugee class (the relatively new Blended visa office-referred refugees are not included.)

Individuals included in the study arrived at age 20 or older, at the time of the 2016 Census of Canada, resided in a Census Metropolitan Area (CMA, defined as having a population of 100,000 or more), and were aged 20-64. These specifications captured most individuals who fell within the primary locations and ages to be part of Canada's labour market.

Entry Class (Econ, Fam, Refugee) by Gender

Men: Economic 55.4%, Family 28%, Refugee 16.6%
Women: Economic 51.6%, Family 36.9%, Refugee 11.5%
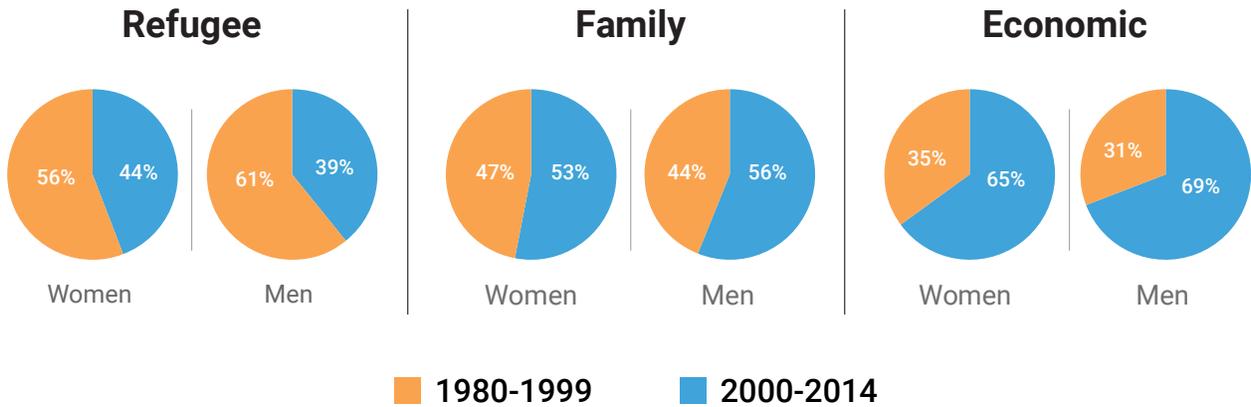
Legend: Economic, Family, Refugee

Over half of persons entering Canada in the three major entry classes between 1980-2014 were in the economic class. 12-17 percent arrived as refugees. Women were slightly less likely than men to enter in the refugee class and more likely to enter in the family class.

Place of Birth by Entry Class and Gender

Refugee
Women: Americas 16%, Europe 21%, Africa 18%, Asia 44%
Men: Americas 13%, Europe 20%, Africa 16%, Asia 51%

Family
Women: Americas 18%, Europe 12%, Africa 7%, Asia 61%, 1%
Men: Americas 21%, Europe 13%, Africa 7%, Asia 57%, 2%

Economic
Women: Americas 9%, Europe 17%, Africa 8%, Asia 66%
Men: Americas 8%, Europe 19%, Africa 11%, Asia 62%
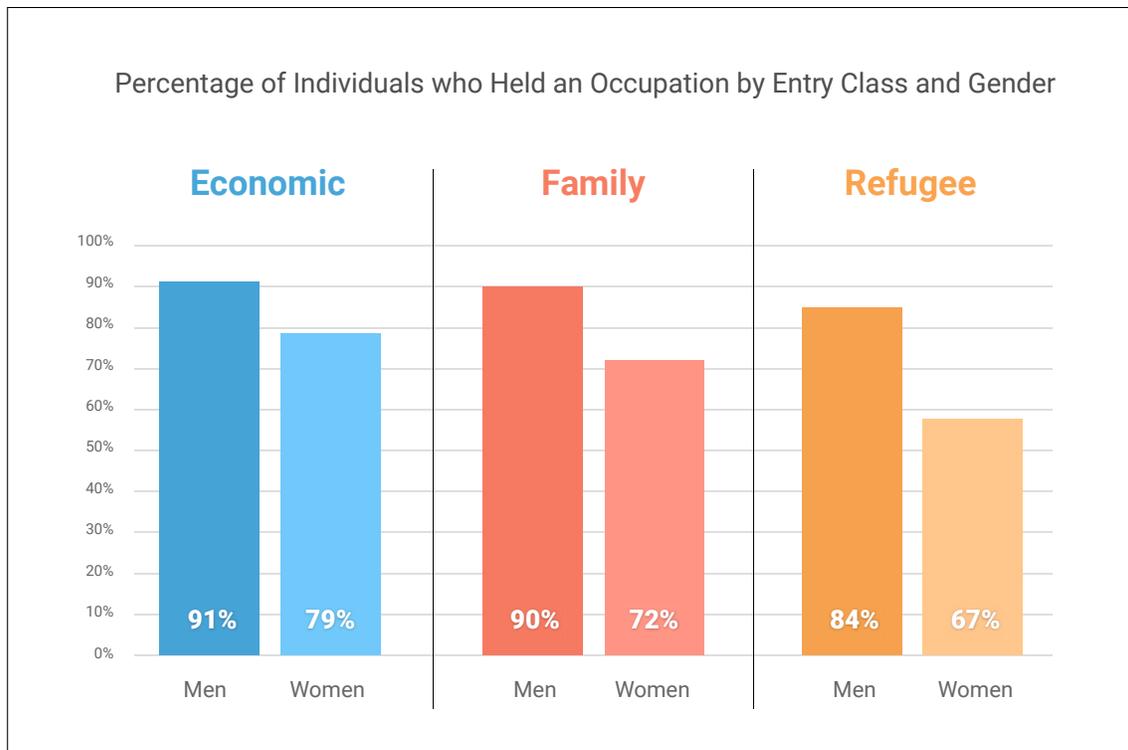
Legend: Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania

Most persons entering through the economic and family classes were born in Asia; Asia was also a major source region for refugees. A higher percentage of refugees were born in Europe or Africa compared to persons who arrived through the economic or family classes.

6

Arrival Period by Entry Class and Gender

Refugee

Women
- 56% 1980-1999
- 44% 2000-2014

Men
- 61% 1980-1999
- 39% 2000-2014

Family

Women
- 47% 1980-1999
- 53% 2000-2014

Men
- 44% 1980-1999
- 56% 2000-2014

Economic

Women
- 35% 1980-1999
- 65% 2000-2014

Men
- 31% 1980-1999
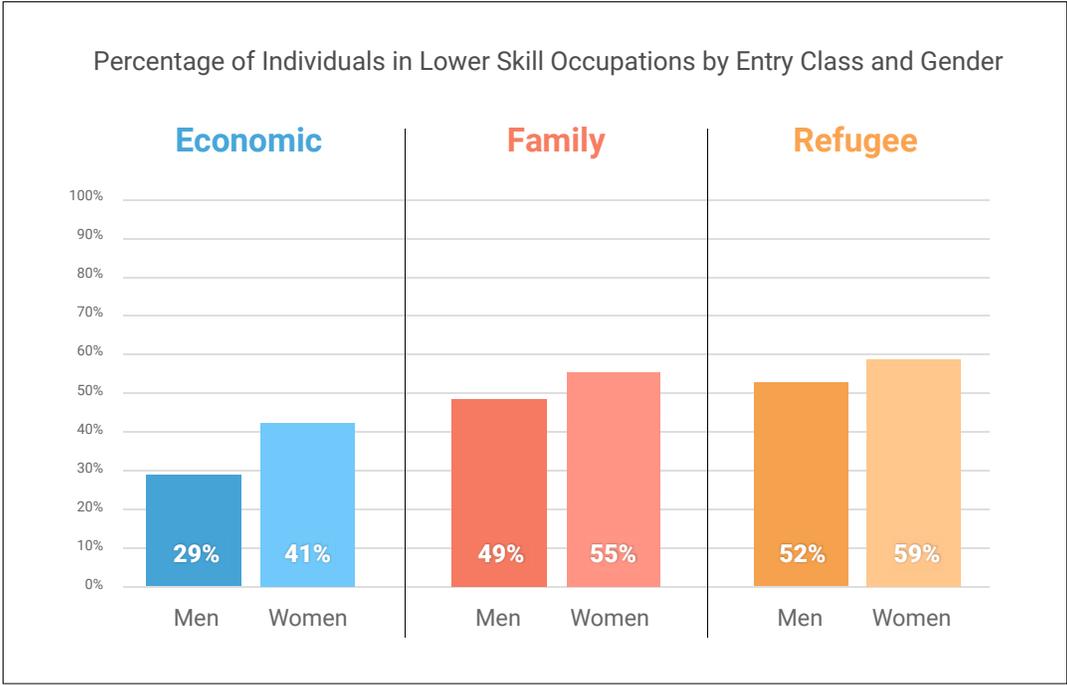- 69% 2000-2014

Legend: ■ 1980-1999 ■ 2000-2014

The highest number of refugees arrived before 2000 while the majority (over two-thirds) of economic class immigrants arrived between 2000-2014.

Percentage of Individuals who Held an Occupation by Entry Class and Gender

Economic
- Men: 91%
- Women: 79%

Family
- Men: 90%
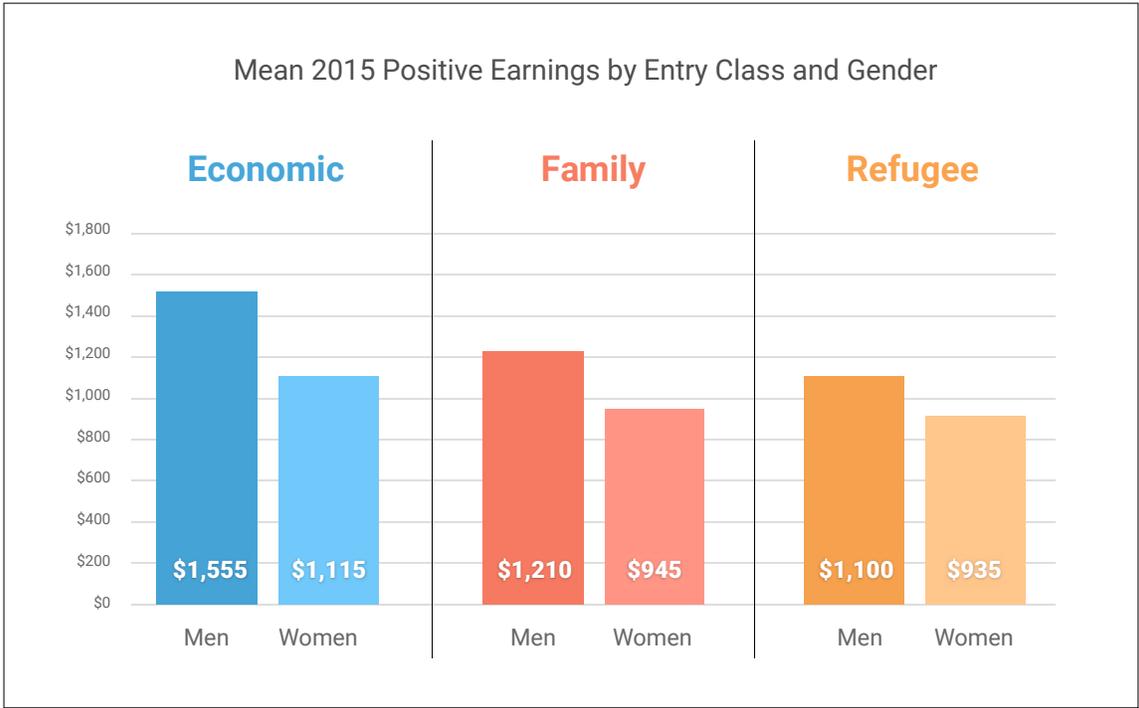- Women: 72%

Refugee
- Men: 84%
- Women: 67%

The percentage of those employed in 2015 and/or 2016 was highest for those admitted in the economic and family classes. In all classes, women were less likely to have participated in Canada's labour market than men.

Percentage of Individuals in Lower Skill Occupations by Entry Class and Gender

More refugees were employed in lower skilled occupations compared to those who entered through the other entry categories. In all entry classes, women were more likely than men to hold lower skilled occupation.

* Lower skill occupations C & D are defined by ESDC as requiring some secondary school education with up to two years of on-the-job training, training courses or as having no formal educational requirements but having a short work demonstration or on-the-job training.

Mean 2015 Positive Earnings by Entry Class and Gender

In all entry categories women earned less than men.