

# 5 reasons

## newcomer women in Canada should receive more support



This systematic review of research on immigrant women is part of the Immigrant Women, Youth, and Seniors study on immigrants settlement and service needs in Canada; funded by Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada.

**We have analyzed:**

- 171 scholarly articles
- Articles were published between 2008 and 2017
- We have also analyzed grey literature

For more information on this research, you can read the [research summary](#) or kindly contact Naolo Charles, Knowledge Exchange Officer.



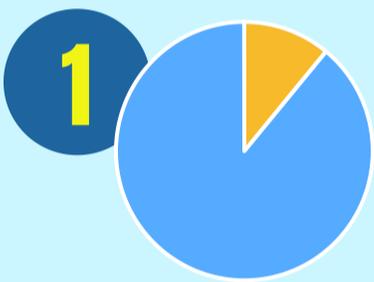
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### Immigrant women constitute 11% of the Canadian population

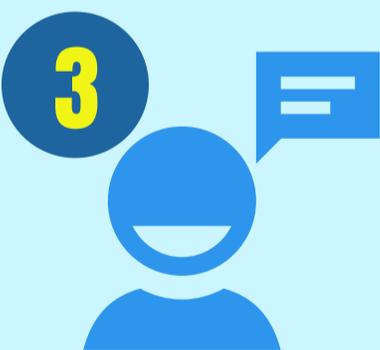
Immigrant women include a diverse array of people from all backgrounds and represent a big portion of Canada's population. Racialized immigrant women, however, face higher rates of poverty, employment discrimination and poor health and mental health which prevents them from participating fully in Canadian Society

● Immigrant women ● Rest of Canadians

### 60% of female newcomers with a university degree are underemployed

In contrast, only 30% of Canadian women with a Bachelor's level of education or higher are underemployed. Research finds that too many employment services channel female newcomers towards low-paying jobs that do not require a degree.

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### Many newcomer women have difficulty accessing services

Barriers to accessing settlement services such as employment programs and language training include: child or elder care responsibilities and lack of affordable childcare options, lack of transportation, and ineligibility due to immigration status.

### Gender-based violence is a settlement issue

Research does not find a significantly different rate of violence and abuse against immigrant women when compared with Canadian women. However, immigrant women may face additional barriers in seeking help and accessing services due to lack of information, social isolation, and language difficulties. Women with precarious immigration status are particularly vulnerable.



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### Immigrant women are at risk of poor health and mental health issues

Barriers to accessing health care include lack of information and language proficiency, distrust of medical professionals, lack of transportation and ineligibility due to immigration status.

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