

The Importance of Immigration to Canada: a focus on London

TESL London
March 29, 2008
Deb Matthews

Outline

- Introduction of demographic concepts
- Global demographic trends
- Canada's demographic picture
- London's demographic picture

Demographics 101

- 3 ways populations change
 - People have children
 - People die
 - People move
- Probability depends on age, sex, where you live, etc.

Demographics 201

- Number of births depends on:
 - Total Fertility Rate: TFR
 - Replacement = 2.1 births per woman
 - Number of women in child-bearing ages
- Migration
 - Internal
 - International (immigration)

Demographics 301

- Every person is born at age 0
- Every year, everyone gets one year older

Population projections

- Starts with the “known” age structure
- Built year-by-year, based on probability of birth, death, migration
- Projections, not predictions
- Must always be considered to be “what-ifs”, not “what-wills”
- Can be a call to action!

Natural Decrease

- More deaths than births
 - Population decline without immigration
- Results from fertility rates that remain below replacement for several decades
- At TFR 1.5, each generation is 75% size of previous generation

Global demographic future:
2 divergent trajectories

Global Demographic Shift

- Historic
- Enormous geo-political consequences
- Two demographic trajectories
- Rich/poor divide

The future of the poorest countries

e.g. Sub-Saharan Africa

- Even if TFR drops by more than half, population will triple over next 50 years.
- Unsustainable growth
- Enormous emigration pressures

Future of richest countries

(UN constant fertility)

- Japan (TFR 1.3)
 - 2000: 127 million
 - 2050: 105 million
 - Natural decrease: 2006
- Germany (TFR 1.3)
 - 2000: 82 million
 - 2050: 72 million
 - Natural decrease: since 1970

A tale of two countries

2000

- Russia: 146 million
- Yemen: 18 million

2050 (UN medium projection)

- Russia: 101 million
- Yemen: 84 million
- Russia declining, Yemen growing
- Russia median age 52, Yemen 22

Is immigration the solution to
below-replacement fertility?
(aging and decline)

Is immigration a solution to population aging?

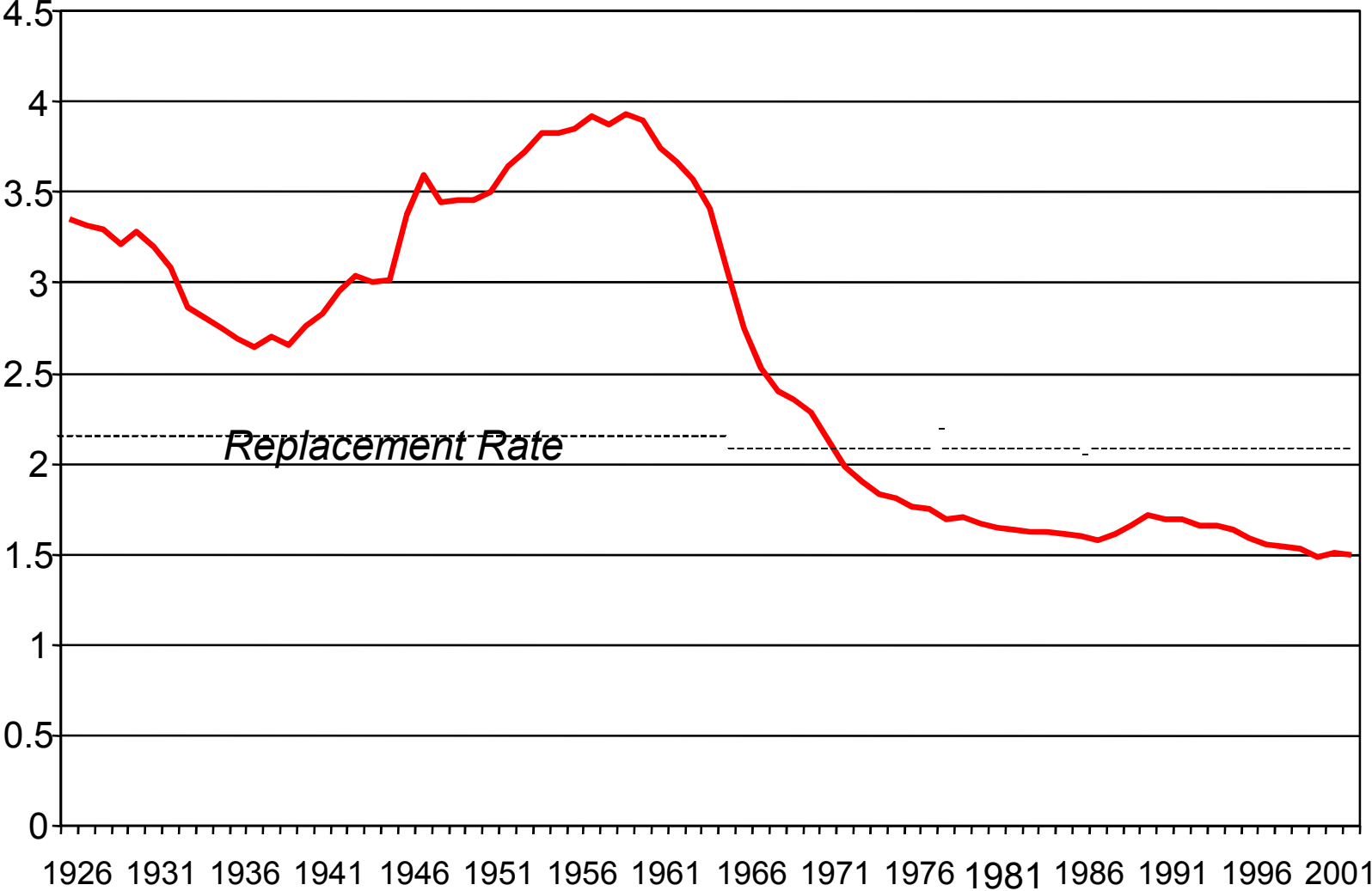
- Contrary to popular belief, very little effect on population aging.
 - Numbers required are impossibly high
- Populations will continue to age significantly, regardless of immigration levels.

Is immigration a solution to population decline?

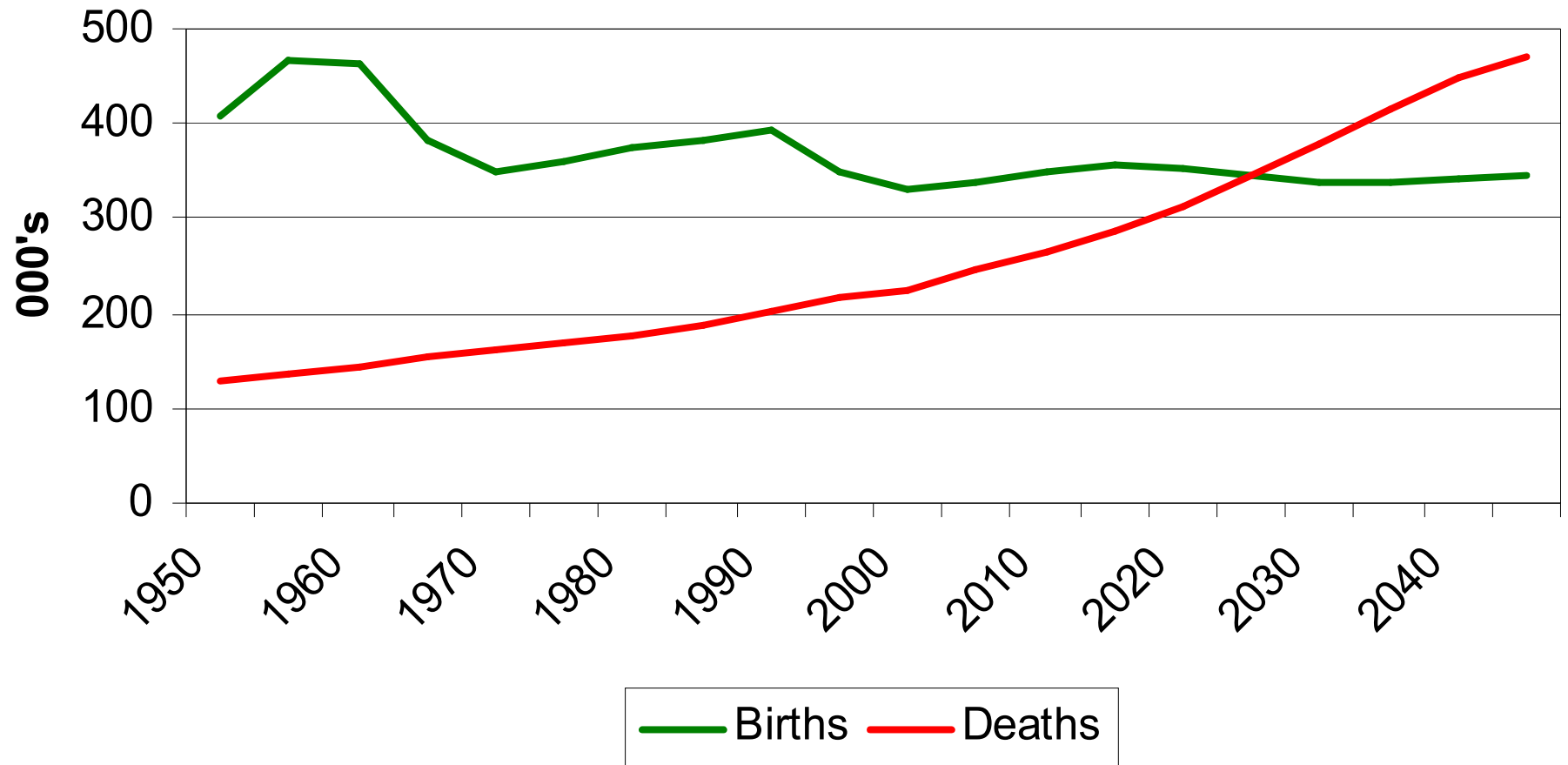
- Yes, but . . .
- Numbers required are high
 - Resistance, especially in Europe, Japan
- Spatial distribution
 - Concentration of immigrants in few centres

Canada's Demographic Picture

Total Fertility Rate: Canada, 1926-2002



Births and Deaths in Canada (UN constant fertility)



Because of immigration,
Canada is well positioned to
deal with the coming
demographic shift

Immigrants/1000 pop.

- Ireland 9.8
- Spain 9.7
- **Canada: 6.7**
- Australia: 5.1
- USA: 4.0
- UK: 2.3
- France: 1.0
- Japan: 0.4

Canada's demographic future

2000: 31 million

2050: 39 million

- Continued, but slowing growth
- **Natural decrease in 2025**
- Immigration increasingly important
 - After 2025, only source of growth
 - Required to prevent population decline

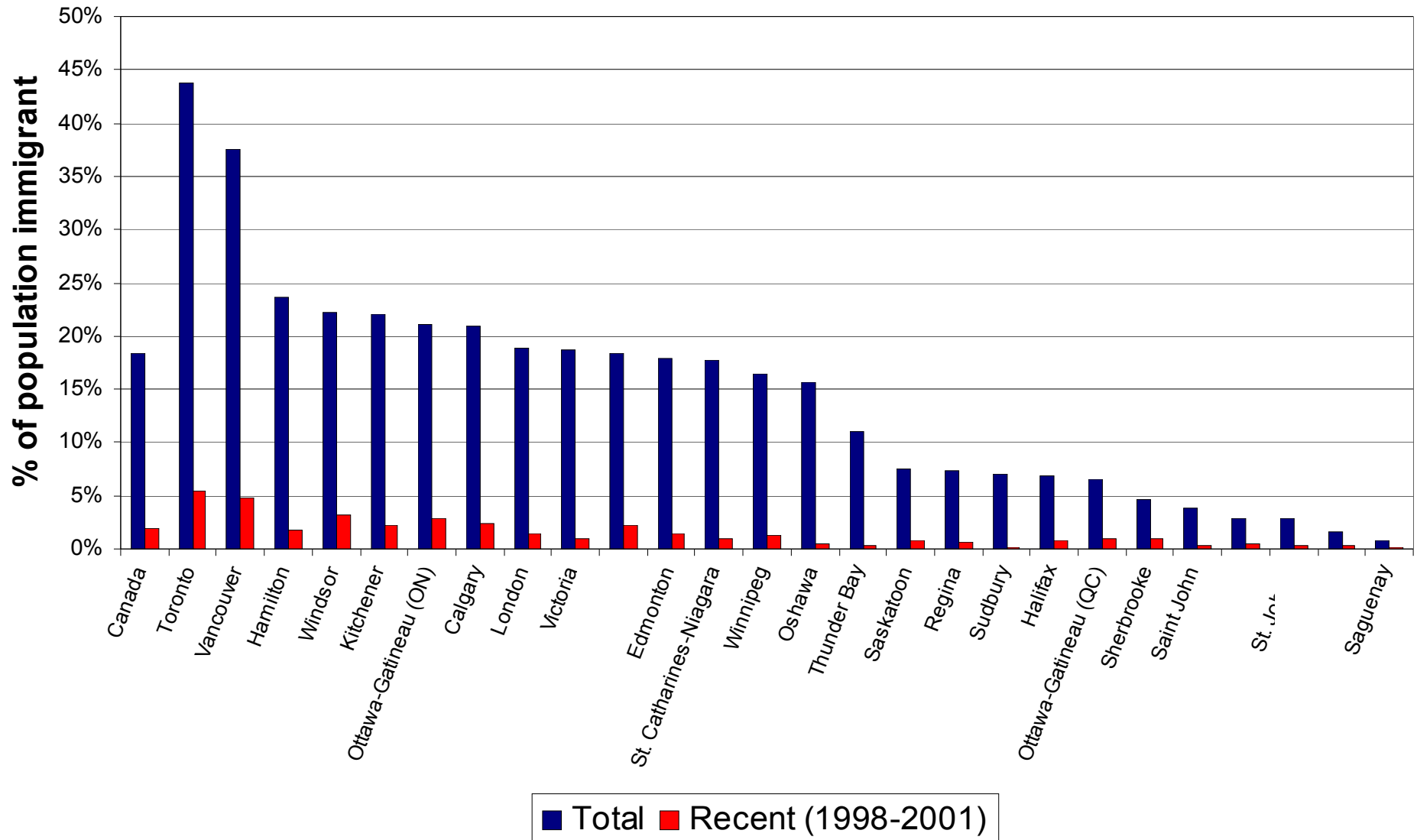
Is Canada a diverse country?

- Or are there diverse cities in a homogeneous Canada?

Immigrants as % of Population

Canadian CMAs, 2001

Source: 2001 Census - Statistics Canada 97F0009XCB01004



Only 16 communities in
Canada have more than their
share of immigrants!

Immigrants as % of population (2001)

Canada	18.4%
Toronto	43.7%
Vancouver	37.5%
Hamilton	23.6%
Kitimat	22.5%
Windsor	22.3%
Kitchener	22.1%
Abbotsford	21.8%
Leamington	21.6%
Ottawa-Gatineau (ON)	21.1%
Calgary	20.9%
Guelph	19.8%
Parksville, B.C.	19.7%
Squamish, B.C.	19.1%
London	18.8%
Victoria	18.8%
Montréal	18.4%

Only 9 communities have
more than their share of
recent immigrants!

% of recent immigrants in population

Canada	2.0%
Toronto	5.4%
Vancouver	4.8%
Windsor	3.2%
Ottawa-Gatineau (ON)	2.8%
Calgary	2.4%
Montréal	2.3%
Kitchener	2.2%
Brooks, Alberta	2.2%
Abbotsford	2.1%

London

1.5%

Settlement patterns of specific groups

- Each city has a very different profile of attraction for immigrants from different parts of the world
- Family and friends most important factor

Canada's demographic future: 2 divergent trajectories

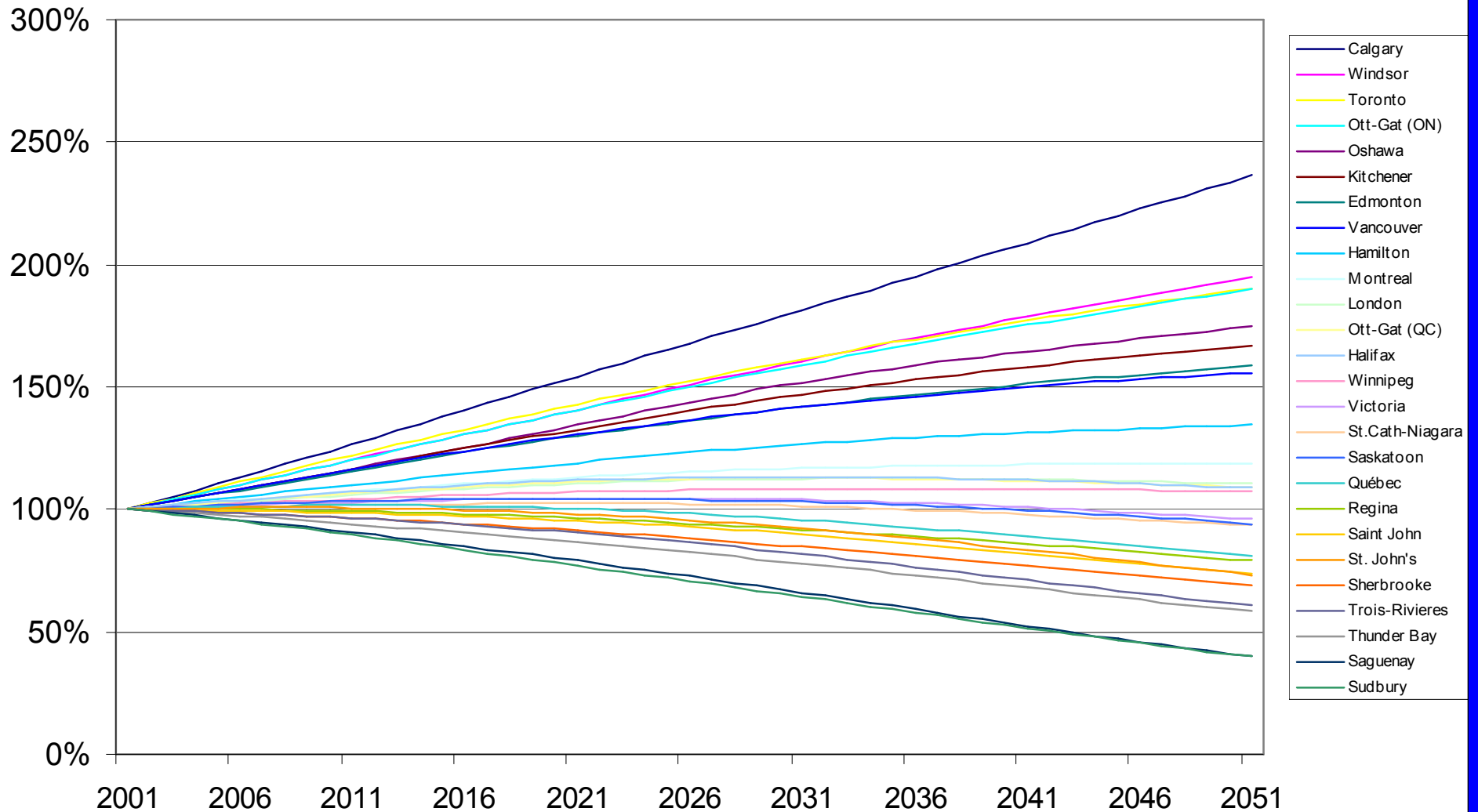
50-year projections for 26 Canadian cities

- Only 10 of 26 cities in Canada will still be growing in 2051
- 12 will be smaller in 2051 than in 2001
- Some will be less than half their current size
- Some will more than double in size

Figure 4.1

Projected population, relative to 2001

Immigration to Canada 250,000/yr.
Unchanged share of immigrants to CMA



2 futures for Canadian cities

- A few growing, diverse, young cities
- Several shrinking, homogeneous, old cities
- Strong regional patterns
- What does London want to be?

Projected populations of selected Ontario cities

Assume everything continues at
current rates

Windsor

- High attraction for immigrants
 - Especially Middle East, Eastern Europe, India
- High attraction for internal migrants
- Result is population doubled in next 50 years
- 2nd fastest growth in Canada
 - Behind Calgary
 - Ahead of Toronto

Windsor 2001 (shaded) & Windsor 2051

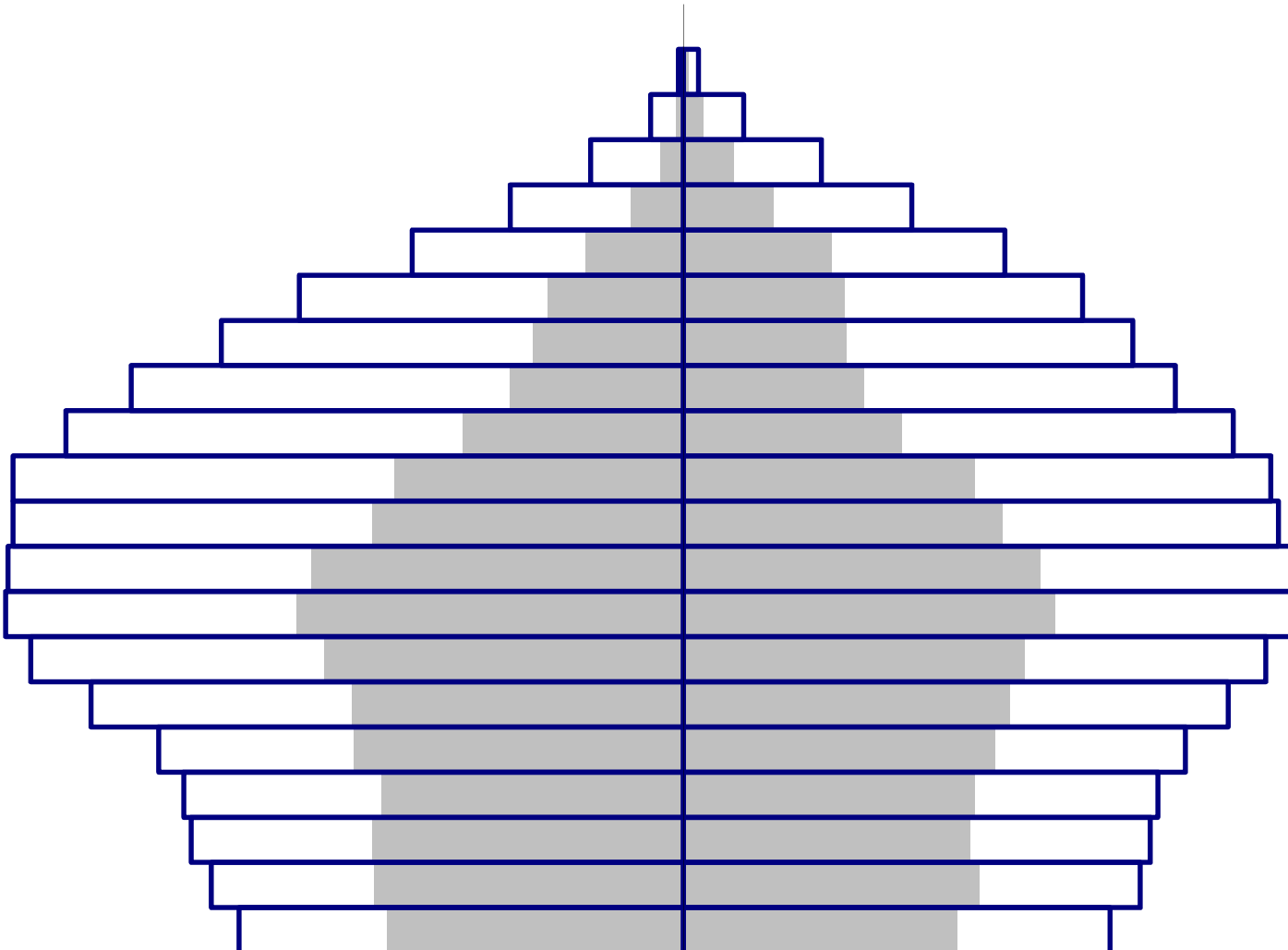
Males

Females

- 100+
- 95-99
- 90-94
- 85-89
- 80-84
- 75-79
- 70-74
- 65-69
- 60-64
- 55-59
- 50-54
- 45-49
- 40-44
- 35-39
- 30-34
- 25-29
- 20-24
- 15-19
- 10-14
- 5-9
- 0-4

30000 25000 20000 15000 10000 5000 0 5000 10000 15000 20000 25000

Numbers



Toronto

- Very high levels of attraction of immigrants from all regions
 - Almost 100,000 per year
- Negative internal migration
 - 10,000 per year
- Almost double over next 50 years

Toronto 2001 (shaded) & Toronto 2051

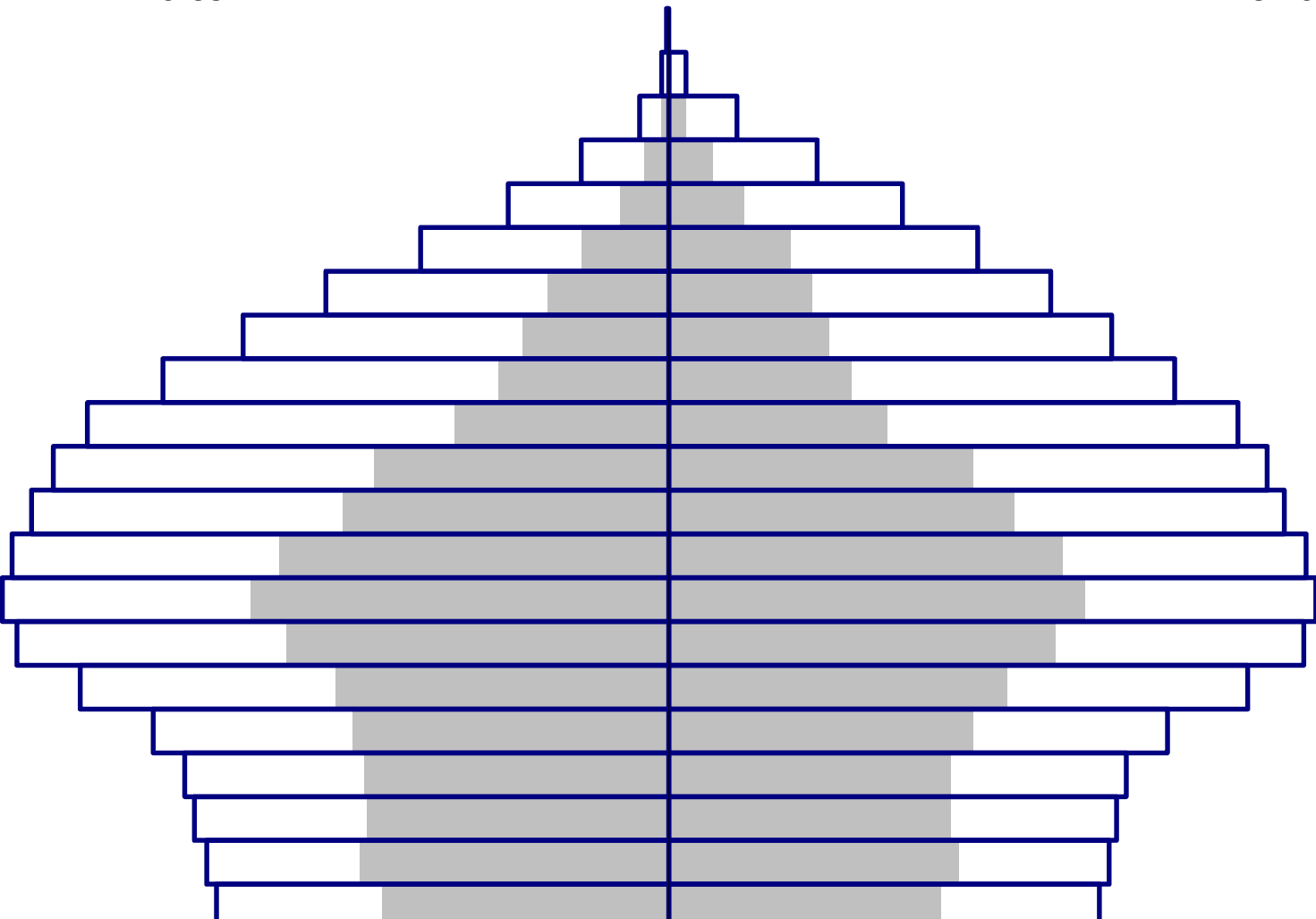
Males

Females

- 100+
- 95-99
- 90-94
- 85-89
- 80-84
- 75-79
- 70-74
- 65-69
- 60-64
- 55-59
- 50-54
- 45-49
- 40-44
- 35-39
- 30-34
- 25-29
- 20-24
- 15-19
- 10-14
- 5-9
- 0-4

400000 300000 200000 100000 0 100000 200000 300000 400000

Numbers



Thunder Bay

- Over 10% immigrant
- But, very few recent immigrants
- High internal out-migration
- Rapid decline projected
 - From 125,000 to 75,000 in 50 years
 - <age 15 will drop by 60%
 - Only oldest age groups will increase in numbers

Thunder Bay 2001 (shaded) & Thunder Bay 2051

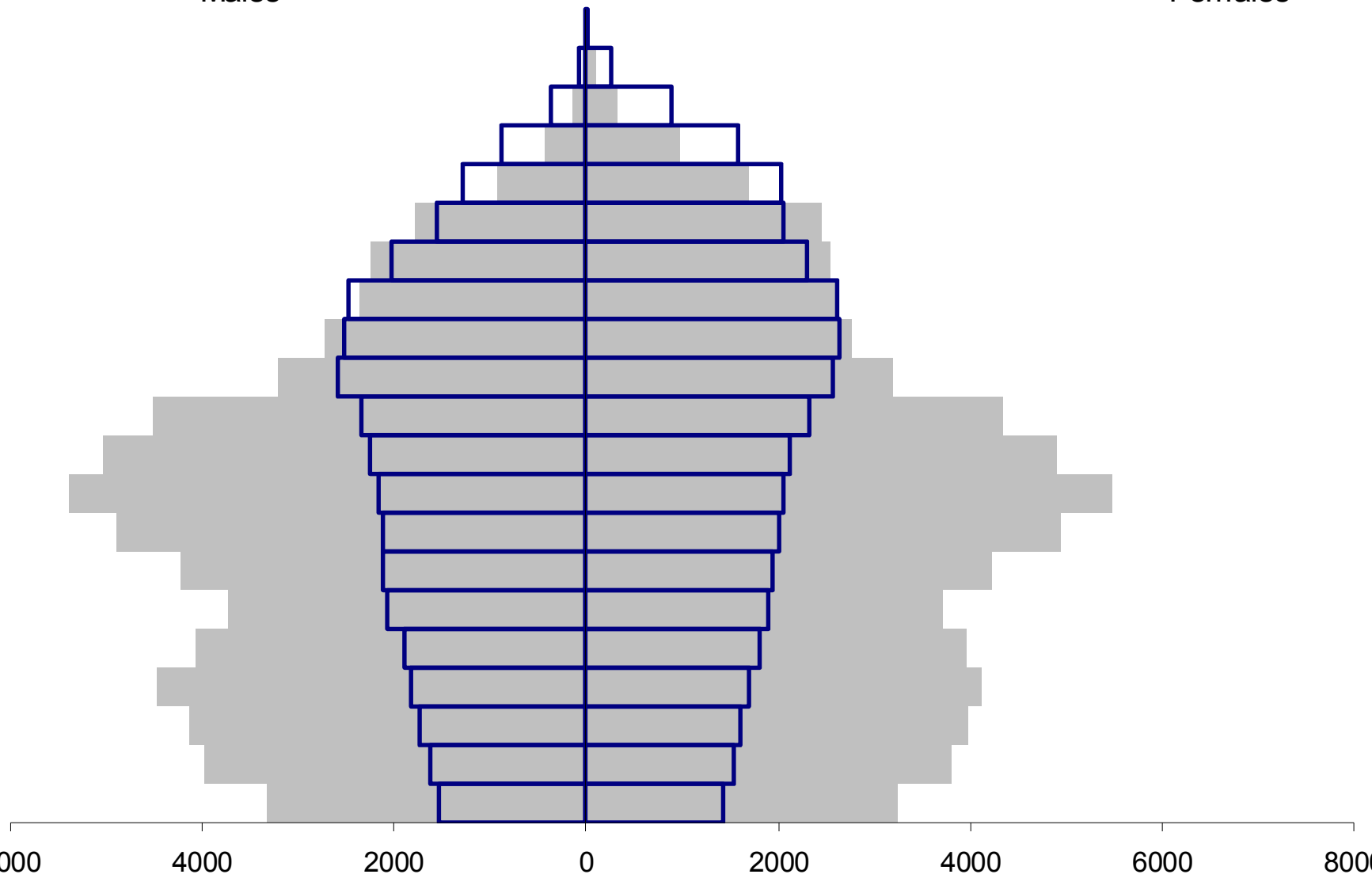
Males

Females

- 100+
- 95-99
- 90-94
- 85-89
- 80-84
- 75-79
- 70-74
- 65-69
- 60-64
- 55-59
- 50-54
- 45-49
- 40-44
- 35-39
- 30-34
- 25-29
- 20-24
- 15-19
- 10-14
- 5-9
- 0-4

6000 4000 2000 0 2000 4000 6000 8000

Numbers



London's demographic picture

London

- About our share of immigrants
- But less than our share of recent immigrants
- Internal migration close to balanced
- Natural decrease by 2020
 - 2041: 4600 births vs. 7100 deaths
- Population begins to decline in 2034

London CMA – 2001-'02

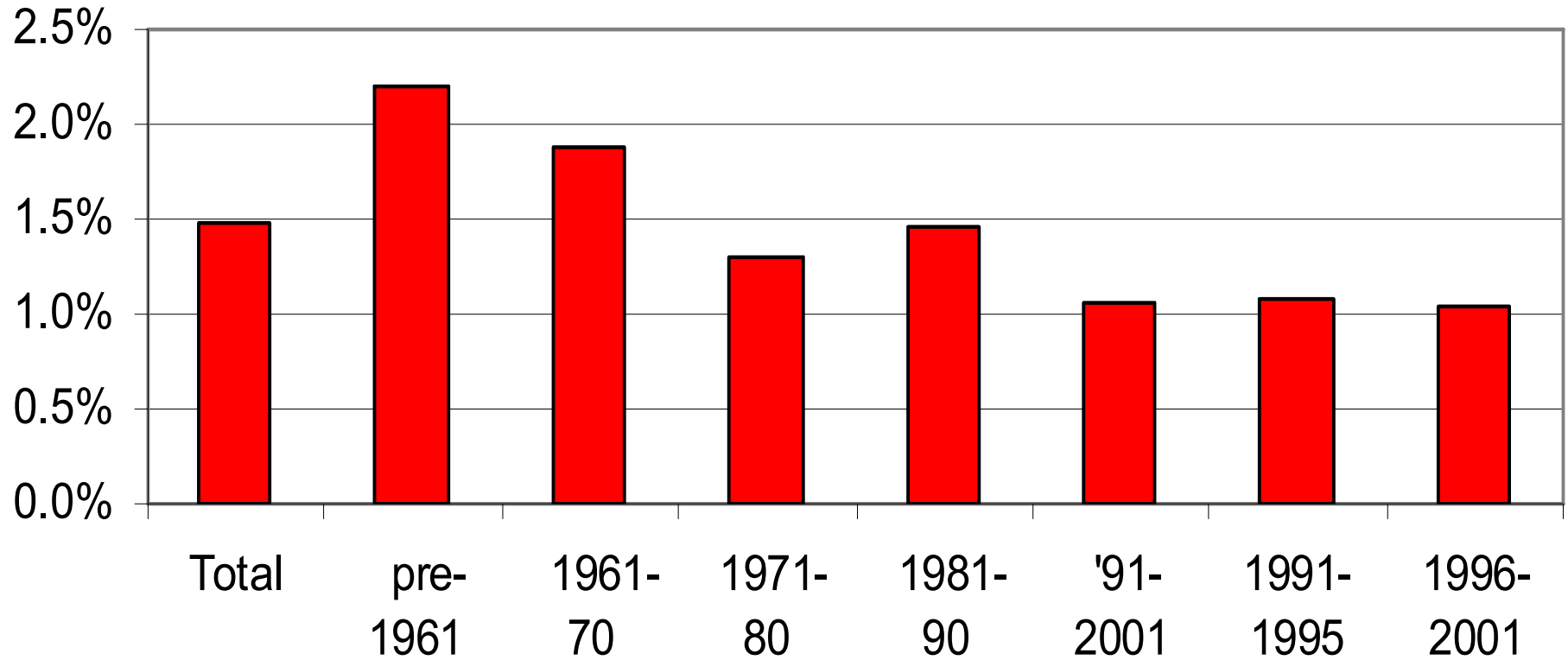
• Base Population:	444,000
• Births:	4,835
• Deaths:	3,586
• Immigration:	2,725
• Emigration:	1,225
• Net Interprovincial Migration:	215
• Net Intraprovincial Migration:	-21
• POPULATION INCREASE:	3,000

London is not attracting our
share of recent immigrants

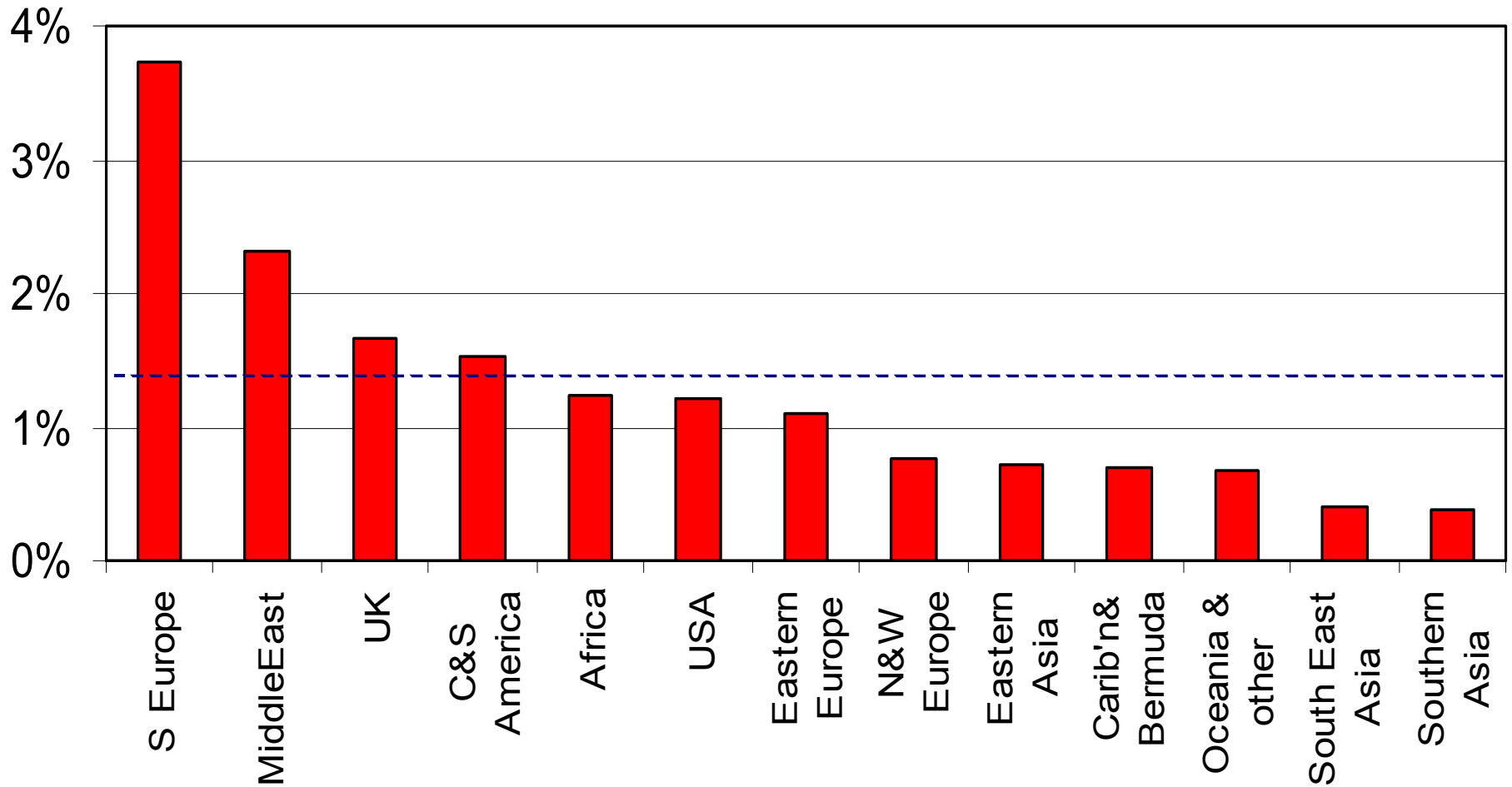
London Quiz

- London as % of Canada's population?
 - 1.44%
- London is home to what % of Canada's immigrants?
 - 1.48%
- Home to what % of Canada's recent immigrants?
 - 1.09%

Immigrants to Canada in London CMA by period of immigration



London's Share of Recent Immigrants



London 2001 (shaded) & London 2051

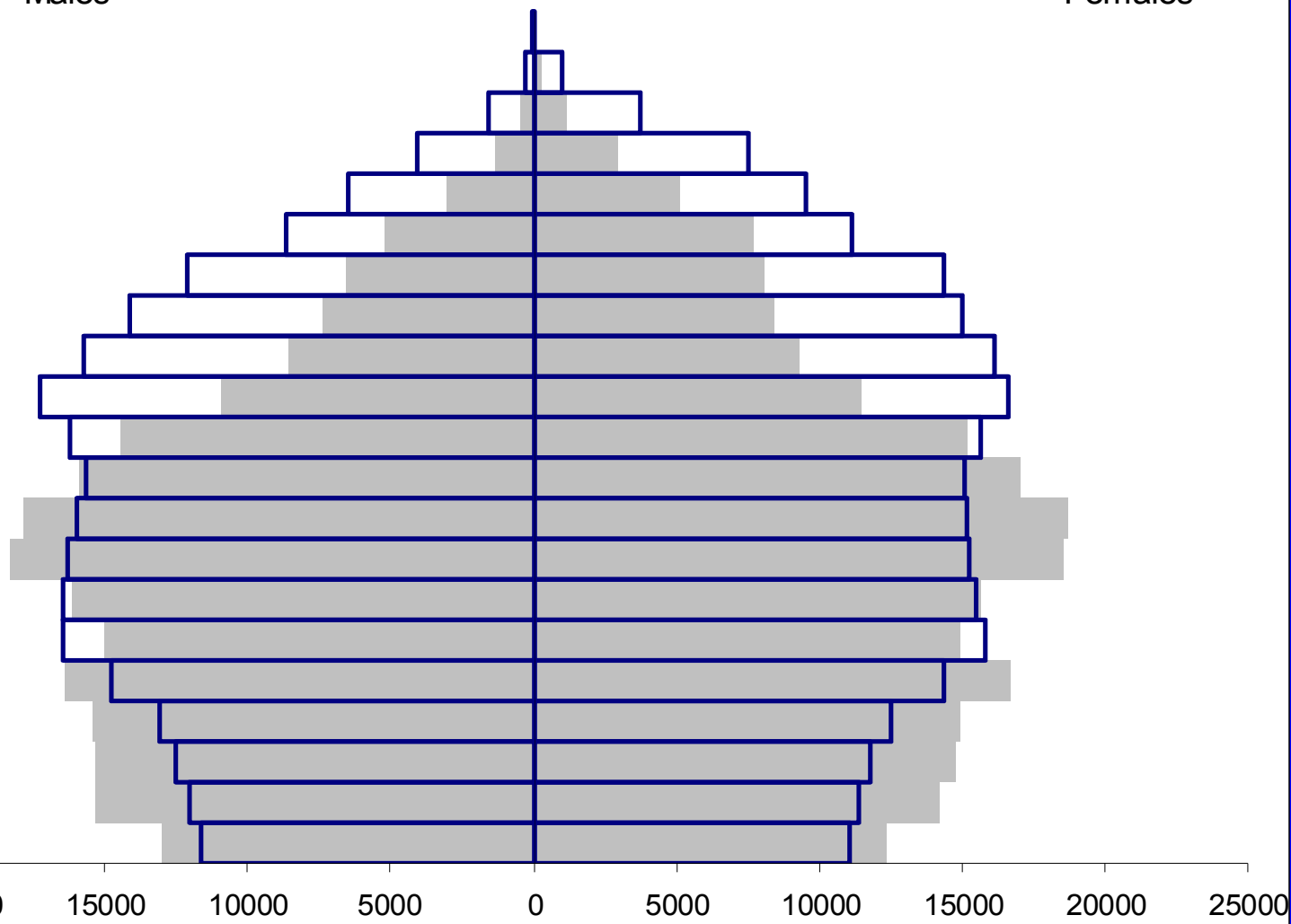
Males

Females

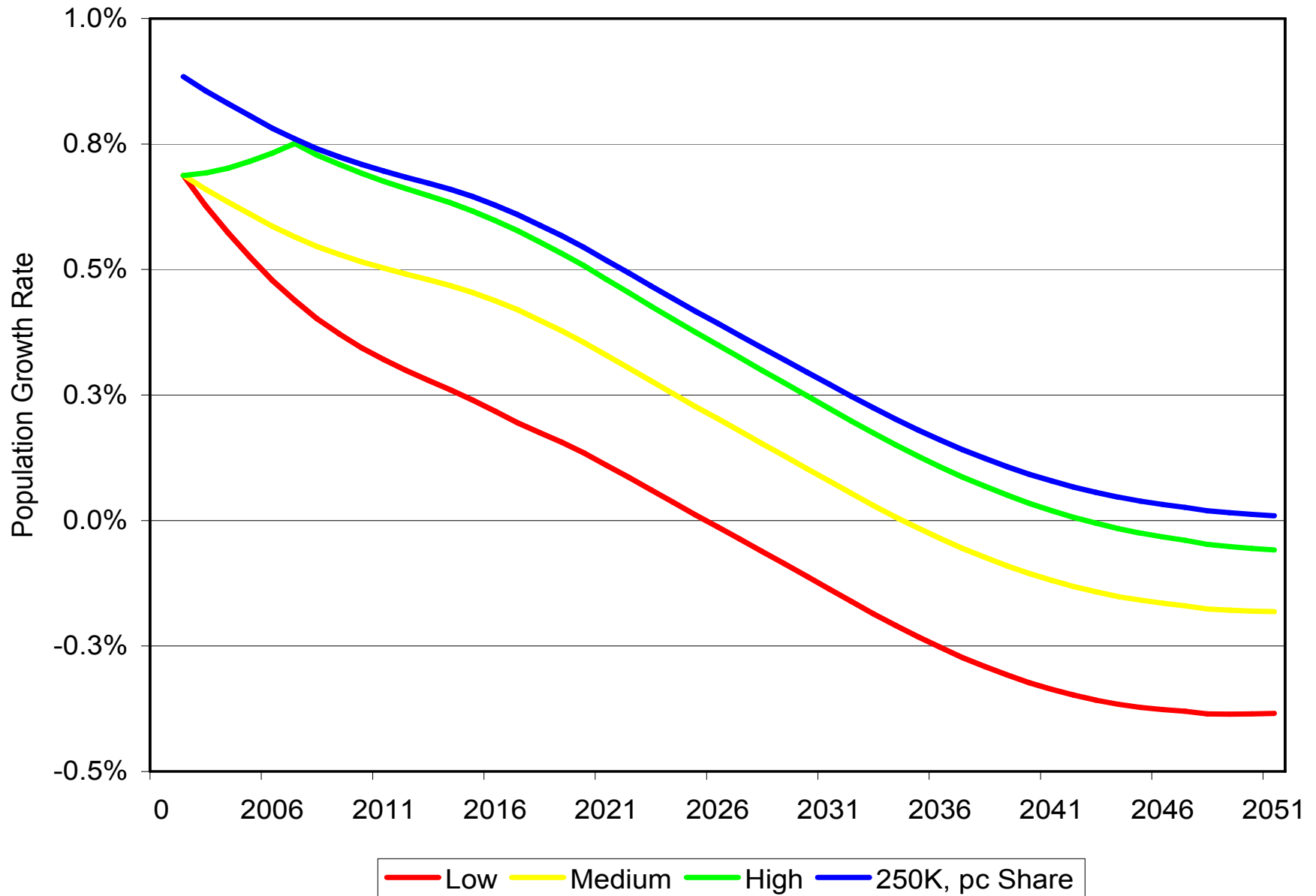
- 100+
- 95-99
- 90-94
- 85-89
- 80-84
- 75-79
- 70-74
- 65-69
- 60-64
- 55-59
- 50-54
- 45-49
- 40-44
- 35-39
- 30-34
- 25-29
- 20-24
- 15-19
- 10-14
- 5-9
- 0-4

25000 20000 15000 10000 5000 0 5000 10000 15000 20000 25000

Numbers



Population Growth Rate London CMA 2001-2051



Migration is the difference

- Just as low-fertility countries that attract immigrants will continue to grow, cities that attract immigrants will continue to grow
- Cities that don't will either have to attract internal migrants, or prepare for population decline.

Food for thought

- The coming demographic shift will have unprecedented consequences for communities in Canada and within the world.
- Without immigration, populations will decline.
- The distribution of immigrants is as important as the number of immigrants.
- Local strategies must take into account their demographic reality and goals.
- Upper level governments must address competing pressures (north/south; east/west; urban/rural)

What action can we take in
London now?

Action plan

- Develop demographic goals
 - Growth?
- Strategic plan
- Take action!

The London Challenge!

- Attract more than our share of immigrants
 - Build awareness of London
 - Make London a place where:
 - newcomers have opportunity for themselves and their children
 - newcomers feel welcome and integrated into our community