



ATLANTIC RESEARCH GROUP
on ECONOMICS *of* IMMIGRATION,
AGING *and* DIVERSITY

The Impact of Literacy and Essential Skills Development Programs on the Socio-Economic Integration of Immigrants—A Cost-benefit Analysis Model





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Actions
interculturelles
— Since 1990
Diversity is **people**

1. Overall

Interesting paper

- Good data
- Good analysis
- Many points covered
- Results are surprising. Hard to know why these results.

2. Specific comments: What are essential skills?

- Definition of essential skills missing from the paper.
Generally essential skills are viewed as the skills needed for work, learning and life.
The above provide the foundation for learning all other skills and enable people to evolve with their jobs and adapt to workplace change
- ESDC identifies nine essential skills including literacy, numeracy, document use, oral communication, thinking skills, continuous learning (<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/essential-skills/profiles/guide.html>)

3. Specific comments: Type of program

- What type of language program are considered?
 - Speaking
 - Writing
 - Language for business
 - Level
- What is their duration?

4. Methodology

- Variables to consider:
 - Subjects' first language
 - Education level
 - Work experience
 - Sector / type of work
 - Length of time in Canada
- Econometric model:
 - Tobit model?

5. Additional consideration

Limited employment opportunities for Francophone immigrants living outside of Quebec.

Houle, R., Pereira, D., & Corbeil, J. P. (2014). *Statistical Portrait of the French-speaking Immigrant Population Outside Quebec (1991-2011)*. Ottawa: CIC.