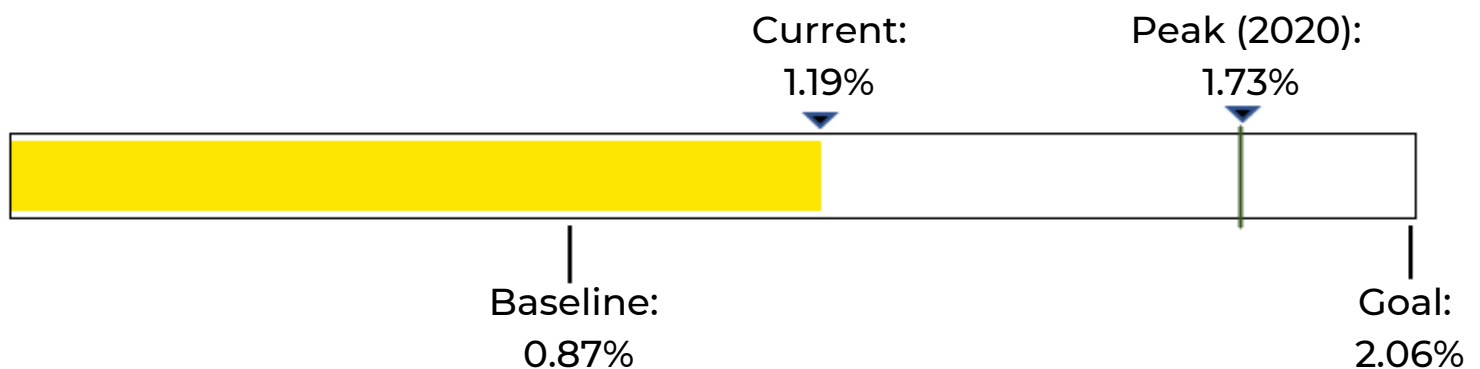




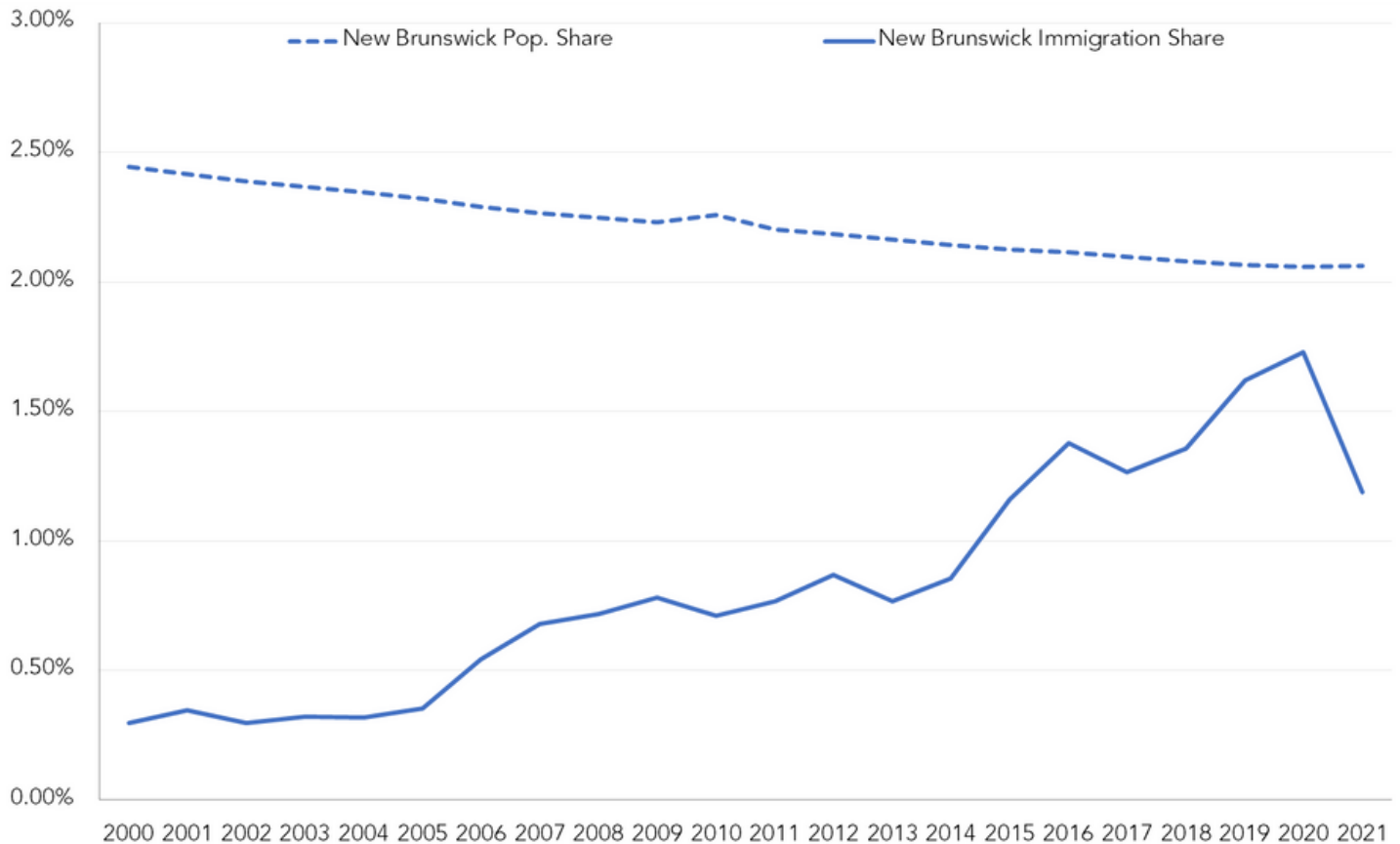
INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION

STATUS: 🟡 PROGRESSING, NOT ON TRACK



New Brunswick will receive a percentage of international immigrants equal to its national population share.

Figure 1: New Brunswick's Population and Immigration Share



(See full data in Appendix A)

HIGHLIGHTS

- New Brunswick in the last fifty years has always received a smaller portion of immigrants than its population share.
- In 2021 New Brunswick received a far smaller share of immigrants than in previous years.
- In 2021 New Brunswick's population share was 2.06% but its share of immigrants was only 1.19%.
- Immigration of young, skilled workers is key to correcting New Brunswick's population demographics and creating a matched workforce.

OVERVIEW

Importance

International immigration is crucial to increasing New Brunswick's population. Immigration will help develop communities, meet employment needs in the province, and grow the local economy through consumption in the province increasing local demand. In this report, all numbers are compared to that of Nova Scotia because of the two provinces' comparable sizes and economies.

Problem

New Brunswick's population share is shrinking due to an aging population and poor retention of youth and immigrants. In 1976, New Brunswick's population share peaked at 2.94%; however, it has since dropped by 30%, reaching 2.06% in 2021.

Cause

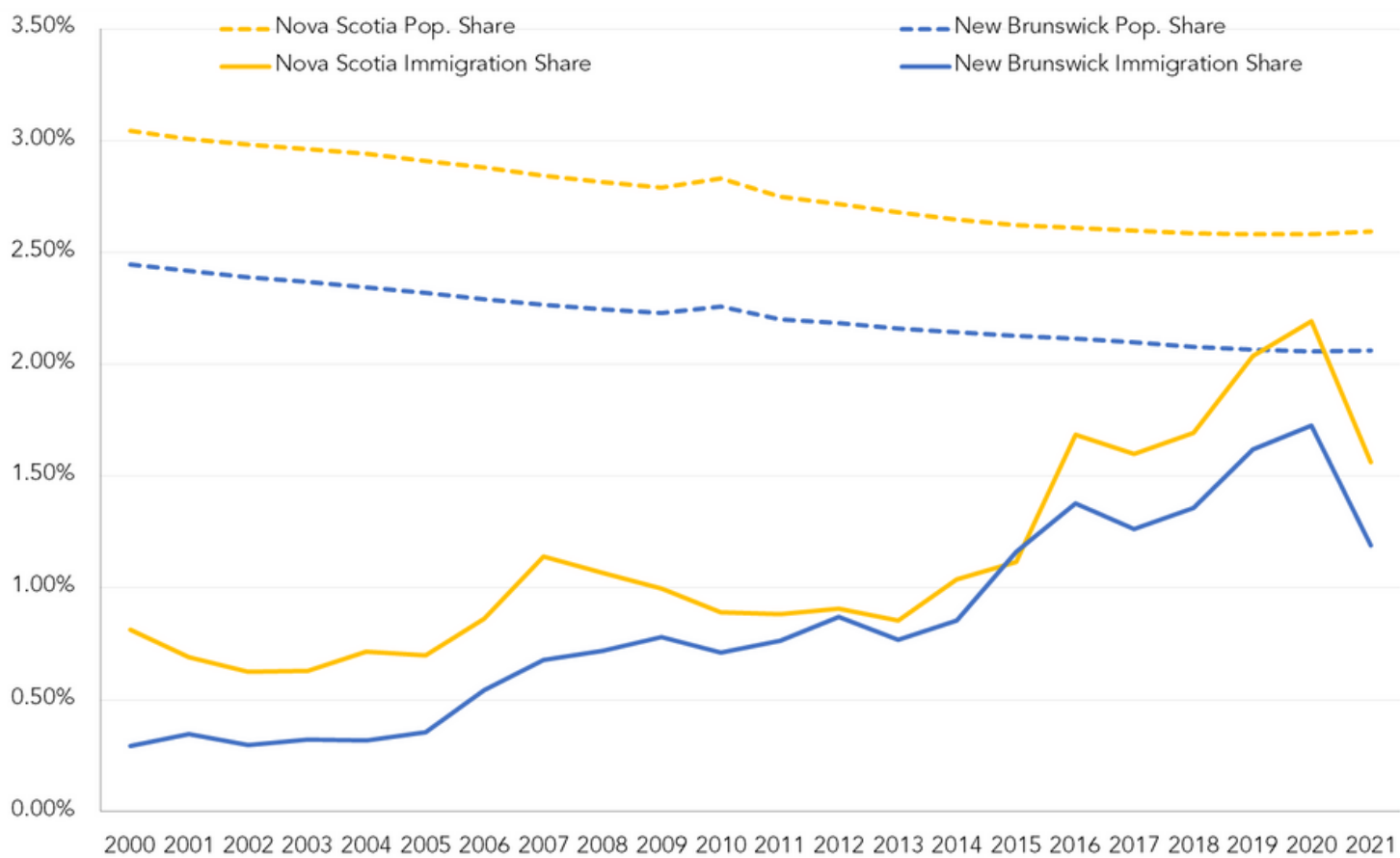
New Brunswick's low population growth rate can be seen as the result of several factors. First is an imbalance between the aging population and the youth population. Low fertility rates – too few births – have caused New Brunswick's death rates to exceed its birth rates every year since 2015. Youth leaving New Brunswick in search of employment has also put negative pressure on the province's population share. These factors can be offset by net positive immigration.

IN THE NUMBERS

International Immigration Share in the Province

Although New Brunswick was previously on track to attain a percentage of international immigrants equal to its population share, 2021 marked a sharp decrease in the province's immigration share. Figure 2 shows New Brunswick's population and immigration shares in comparison with Nova Scotia. In 2021, New Brunswick received only 1.13% of the immigrant population arriving in Canada, less than the approximated 2.06% population share.

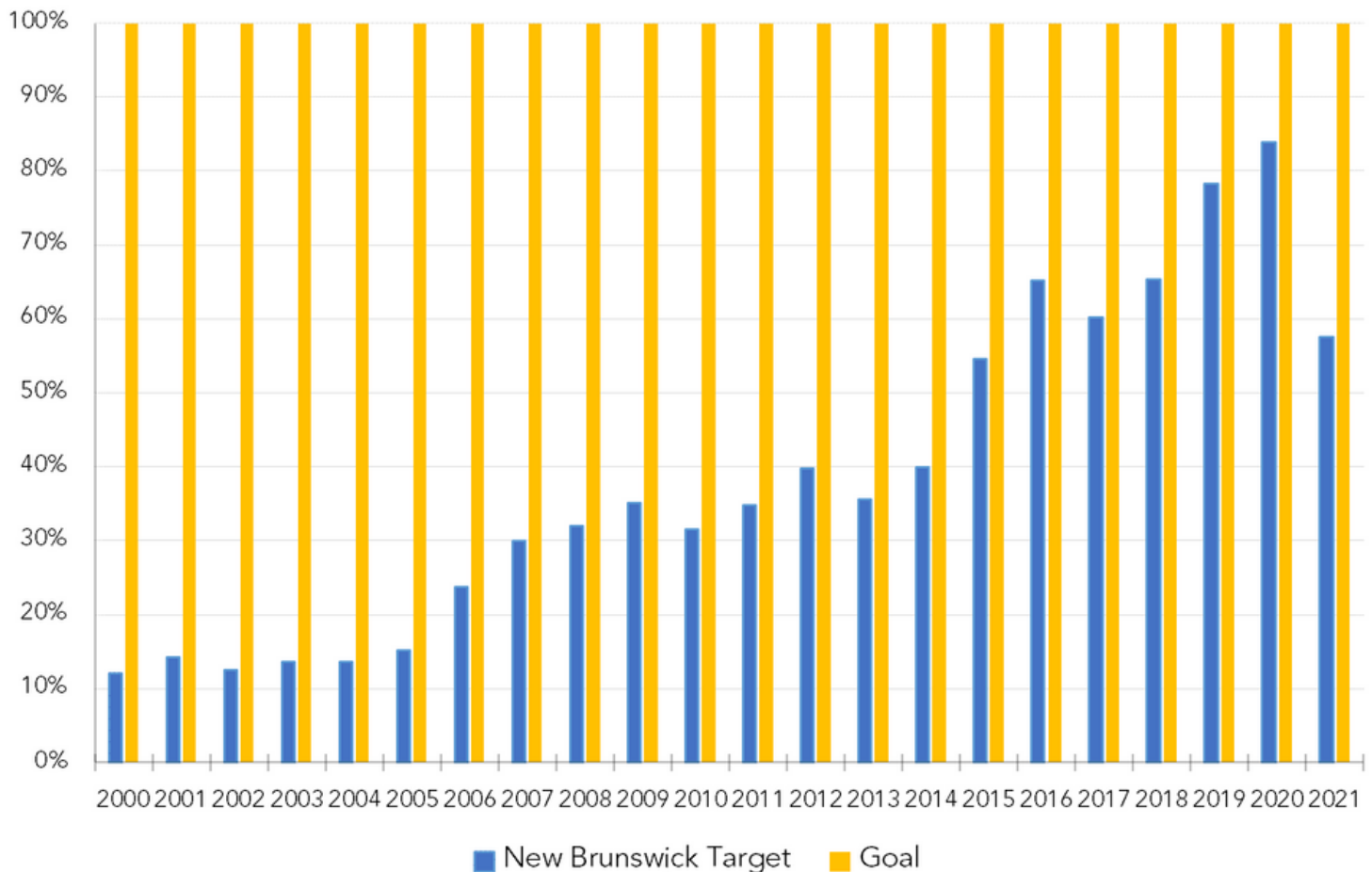
Figure 2: Population and Immigration Share of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia



(See full data in Appendix A)

As presented in Figure 3, the province achieved 84% of the suggested goal in 2020. This number dropped to 58% in 2021. This more than fully offset the gains made in interprovincial migration in the same year.

Figure 3: Percentage of Goal - Share of Immigrants to Share of National Population



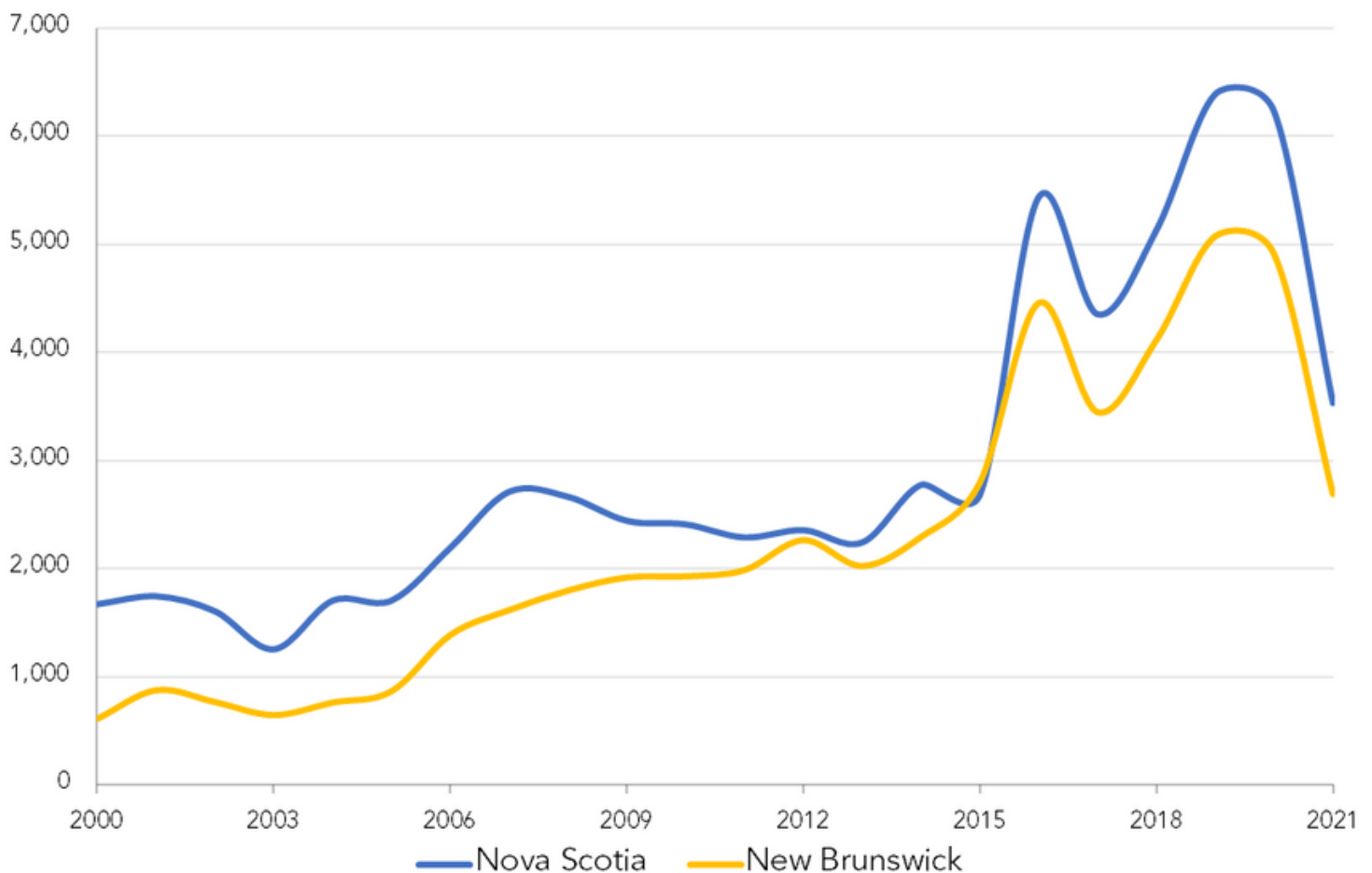
(See full data in Appendix A)

A CLOSER LOOK

Annual Immigration Settlement

From 2000 to 2005, New Brunswick experienced its lowest immigration levels in 40 years, whereas Nova Scotia saw considerably higher numbers (see Figure 3). From 2006 to 2019, New Brunswick's immigration numbers increased, reaching their highest point in 2016. This was due to an influx of Syrian refugees. In 2021, immigration totals decreased in both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia due to various factors, although Nova Scotia continued to receive more immigrants than New Brunswick.

Figure 3: Number of Migrants Settling Annually



(See full data in Appendix B)

SUMMARY

- New Brunswick's population share is declining due to an aging population and poor retention of its younger population.
- Increasing the province's population share could stimulate economic growth. This could be accomplished by receiving a larger number of international immigrants and students.
- If New Brunswick adopts the same strategy outlined by OneNS (onens.ca), it should aim to receive a percentage of international immigrants equal to New Brunswick's share of the Canadian population, approximately 2.06%.
- This goal has shown progress over a twenty-year period, but recent data shows a sharp drop in 2021. This has caused us to downgrade the goal from progressing on track to progressing not on track.

APPENDIX A

Population and Immigration Share

| Year | Nova Scotia Pop. Share | New Brunswick Pop. Share | Nova Scotia Immigration Share | New Brunswick Immigration Share |
|------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1972 | 3.61% | 2.92% | 1.46% | 0.92% |
| 1973 | 3.61% | 2.92% | 1.39% | 1.03% |
| 1974 | 3.59% | 2.91% | 1.41% | 1.05% |
| 1975 | 3.57% | 2.93% | 1.12% | 0.95% |
| 1976 | 3.56% | 2.94% | 1.18% | 1.32% |
| 1977 | 3.54% | 2.93% | 1.42% | 1.09% |
| 1978 | 3.52% | 2.92% | 1.21% | 0.74% |
| 1979 | 3.51% | 2.91% | 1.14% | 0.82% |
| 1980 | 3.48% | 2.88% | 1.31% | 1.06% |
| 1981 | 3.44% | 2.85% | 1.00% | 0.76% |
| 1982 | 3.42% | 2.82% | 1.09% | 0.65% |
| 1983 | 3.42% | 2.82% | 0.92% | 0.65% |
| 1984 | 3.43% | 2.81% | 1.06% | 0.63% |
| 1985 | 3.43% | 2.80% | 1.25% | 0.71% |
| 1986 | 3.41% | 2.78% | 1.10% | 0.70% |
| 1987 | 3.38% | 2.75% | 0.89% | 0.52% |
| 1988 | 3.35% | 2.73% | 0.80% | 0.38% |
| 1989 | 3.31% | 2.70% | 0.82% | 0.41% |
| 1990 | 3.29% | 2.67% | 0.71% | 0.47% |
| 1991 | 3.26% | 2.66% | 0.70% | 0.33% |
| 1992 | 3.24% | 2.64% | 0.79% | 0.33% |
| 1993 | 3.22% | 2.61% | 0.97% | 0.28% |
| 1994 | 3.20% | 2.59% | 1.31% | 0.25% |
| 1995 | 3.17% | 2.56% | 1.69% | 0.31% |
| 1996 | 3.15% | 2.54% | 1.56% | 0.30% |
| 1997 | 3.12% | 2.52% | 1.38% | 0.30% |
| 1998 | 3.09% | 2.49% | 1.33% | 0.37% |
| 1999 | 3.07% | 2.47% | 0.94% | 0.43% |
| 2000 | 3.04% | 2.45% | 0.81% | 0.30% |
| 2001 | 3.01% | 2.42% | 0.69% | 0.35% |
| 2002 | 2.98% | 2.39% | 0.63% | 0.30% |
| 2003 | 2.96% | 2.37% | 0.63% | 0.32% |
| 2004 | 2.94% | 2.35% | 0.71% | 0.32% |
| 2005 | 2.91% | 2.32% | 0.70% | 0.35% |
| 2006 | 2.88% | 2.29% | 0.86% | 0.54% |
| 2007 | 2.84% | 2.27% | 1.14% | 0.68% |
| 2008 | 2.81% | 2.25% | 1.07% | 0.72% |
| 2009 | 2.79% | 2.23% | 1.00% | 0.78% |
| 2010 | 2.83% | 2.26% | 0.89% | 0.71% |
| 2011 | 2.75% | 2.20% | 0.88% | 0.77% |
| 2012 | 2.72% | 2.18% | 0.91% | 0.87% |
| 2013 | 2.68% | 2.16% | 0.85% | 0.77% |
| 2014 | 2.65% | 2.14% | 1.04% | 0.86% |
| 2015 | 2.62% | 2.13% | 1.12% | 1.16% |
| 2016 | 2.61% | 2.11% | 1.68% | 1.38% |
| 2017 | 2.60% | 2.10% | 1.60% | 1.26% |
| 2018 | 2.59% | 2.08% | 1.69% | 1.36% |
| 2019 | 2.58% | 2.07% | 2.04% | 1.62% |
| 2020 | 2.58% | 2.06% | 2.19% | 1.73% |
| 2021 | 2.59% | 2.06% | 1.56% | 1.19% |

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (persons) (1); Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0005: Estimates of population, Canada, provinces and territories, quarterly (persons) (1,2,3,6)

APPENDIX B

Percentage of Goal: Share of Immigrants to Share of National Population

| Year | NB Share of Target |
|------|--------------------|
| 1972 | 31.63% |
| 1973 | 35.31% |
| 1974 | 35.96% |
| 1975 | 32.64% |
| 1976 | 44.83% |
| 1977 | 37.11% |
| 1978 | 25.48% |
| 1979 | 28.06% |
| 1980 | 36.93% |
| 1981 | 26.59% |
| 1982 | 23.16% |
| 1983 | 23.17% |
| 1984 | 22.39% |
| 1985 | 25.37% |
| 1986 | 25.38% |
| 1987 | 18.82% |
| 1988 | 13.98% |
| 1989 | 15.29% |
| 1990 | 17.55% |
| 1991 | 12.54% |
| 1992 | 12.48% |
| 1993 | 10.74% |
| 1994 | 9.67% |
| 1995 | 11.95% |
| 1996 | 11.69% |
| 1997 | 11.89% |
| 1998 | 14.81% |
| 1999 | 17.59% |
| 2000 | 12.10% |
| 2001 | 14.32% |
| 2002 | 12.49% |
| 2003 | 13.67% |
| 2004 | 13.55% |
| 2005 | 15.24% |
| 2006 | 23.80% |
| 2007 | 29.94% |
| 2008 | 32.05% |
| 2009 | 35.06% |
| 2010 | 31.56% |
| 2011 | 34.83% |
| 2012 | 39.84% |
| 2013 | 35.58% |
| 2014 | 39.96% |
| 2015 | 54.66% |
| 2016 | 65.25% |
| 2017 | 60.27% |
| 2018 | 65.29% |
| 2019 | 78.32% |
| 2020 | 83.92% |
| 2021 | 57.61% |

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces and territories, annual (persons) (1); Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0005: Estimates of population, Canada, provinces and territories, quarterly (persons) (1,2,3,6)

APPENDIX C

Net In-Migration by Province

| Year | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick |
|------|-------------|---------------|
| 1972 | 1,709 | 1,081 |
| 1973 | 1,923 | 1,428 |
| 1974 | 3,064 | 2,279 |
| 1975 | 2,342 | 1,998 |
| 1976 | 2,004 | 2,241 |
| 1977 | 1,854 | 1,425 |
| 1978 | 1,219 | 751 |
| 1979 | 967 | 689 |
| 1980 | 1,885 | 1,530 |
| 1981 | 1,271 | 963 |
| 1982 | 1,470 | 883 |
| 1983 | 937 | 662 |
| 1984 | 939 | 558 |
| 1985 | 1,049 | 596 |
| 1986 | 974 | 625 |
| 1987 | 1,170 | 678 |
| 1988 | 1,212 | 580 |
| 1989 | 1,452 | 732 |
| 1990 | 1,454 | 954 |
| 1991 | 1,542 | 738 |
| 1992 | 1,927 | 804 |
| 1993 | 2,599 | 748 |
| 1994 | 3,084 | 589 |
| 1995 | 3,726 | 676 |
| 1996 | 3,397 | 646 |
| 1997 | 3,111 | 673 |
| 1998 | 2,590 | 717 |
| 1999 | 1,624 | 752 |
| 2000 | 1,674 | 609 |
| 2001 | 1,747 | 874 |
| 2002 | 1,609 | 765 |
| 2003 | 1,257 | 645 |
| 2004 | 1,707 | 760 |
| 2005 | 1,708 | 865 |
| 2006 | 2,197 | 1,386 |
| 2007 | 2,715 | 1,616 |
| 2008 | 2,668 | 1,797 |
| 2009 | 2,446 | 1,918 |
| 2010 | 2,413 | 1,928 |
| 2011 | 2,292 | 1,986 |
| 2012 | 2,360 | 2,263 |
| 2013 | 2,246 | 2,024 |
| 2014 | 2,779 | 2,293 |
| 2015 | 2,688 | 2,797 |
| 2016 | 5,442 | 4,458 |
| 2017 | 4,357 | 3,448 |
| 2018 | 5,137 | 4,116 |
| 2019 | 6,395 | 5,076 |
| 2020 | 6,234 | 4,910 |
| 2021 | 3,536 | 2,689 |

Source: Statistics Canada, CANSIM Table 051-0004: Components of population growth, Canada, provinces, and territories, annual (persons) (1)