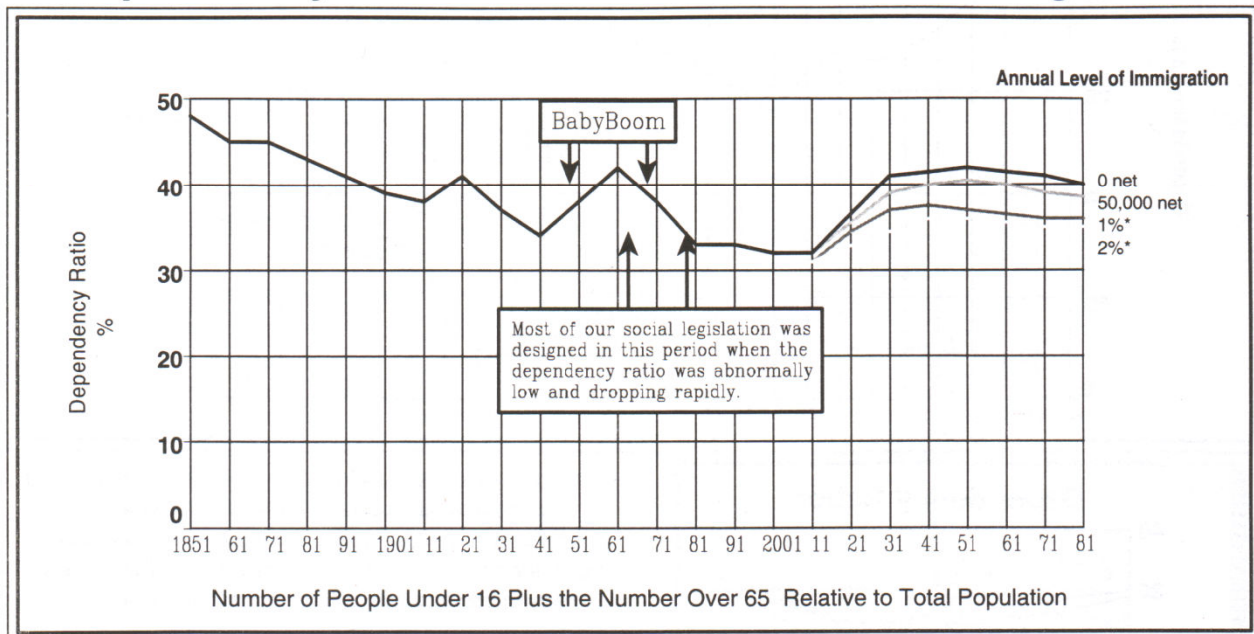


Dependency Ratio for Various Levels of Immigration



Inevitable Aging

The graph above shows the history of Canada's dependency ratio as well as projections for various levels of immigration. We currently have an unusually low dependency ratio and it will rise no matter what steps we take. Even extremely high levels of immigration will only have a moderate effect on the dependency ratio by 2040 and this effect will be reduced in the decades leading to 2100.

The components of the "dependent" group are people either over 65 or under 16. The shift in their relative contribution to the dependency ratio is illustrated in the graph on the reverse side. The increase in the number of old people and the decrease in the number of young people will require adjustments in our educational and health institutions. They will also require changes in our labour policies regarding part-time work and early retirement. A number of European countries currently have the age profile that Canada will have in 30 to 40 years. The Europeans have been dealing with it very

successfully as illustrated by the fact that they have been making strong gains in real per capita incomes while Canadians have stagnated in this area. The European experience shows that while aging will require changes, it does not present insurmountable problems.

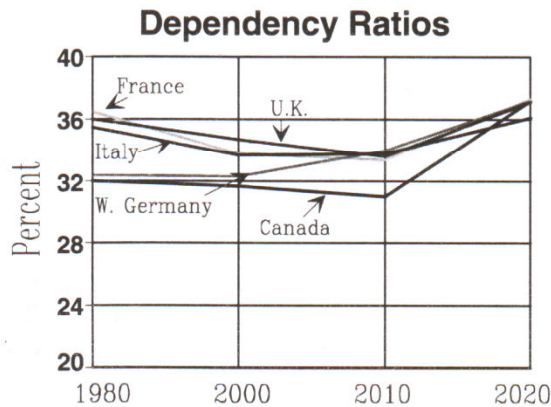
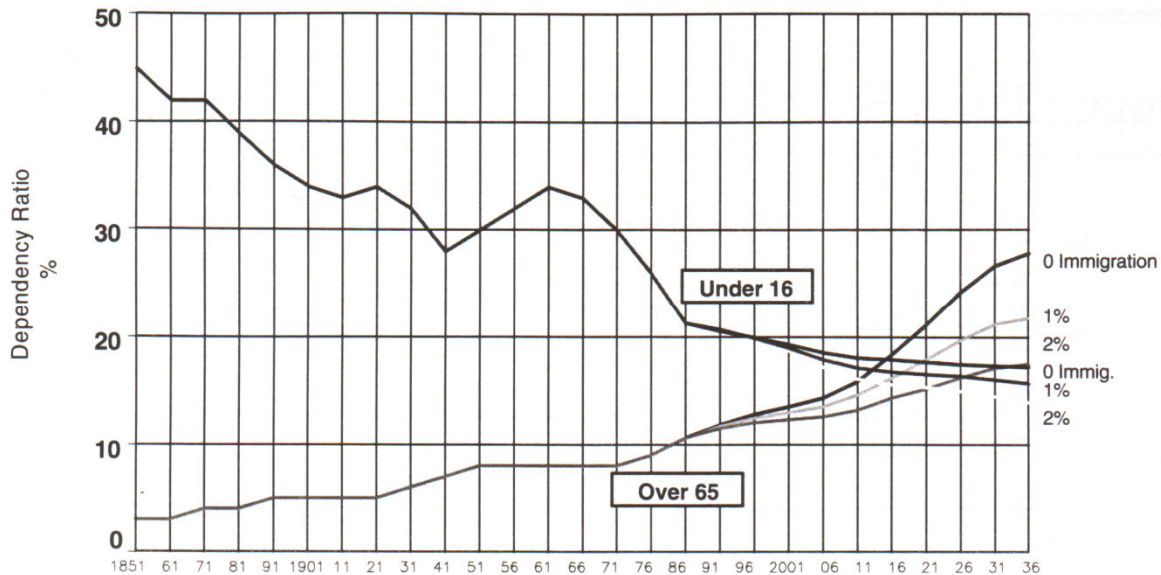
Internal Solutions

Like most of our other problems such as debt and environmental decline, aging of the population can only be dealt with successfully by well thought out internal Canadian policies. We will not be able to import solutions.

The "baby boom" of the 1950s and 1960s only delayed the effects of population aging. A great deal of our social policy development was done in the 1960s and 1970s when the dependency ratio was falling dramatically. The basic assumptions and the costs of those policies will have to be examined in the context of more normal, long term trends.

* 1% or 2% per year means that the number of net immigrants equals 1% or 2% of the current population. Our current population is 26 million. 1% is 260,000 immigrants per year. This is the government target for 1991.

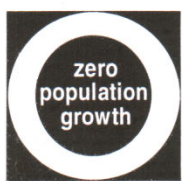
Age Components of Dependency Ratio for Various Rates of Immigration



Canada has a relatively low dependency ratio compared to other developed countries. We have 30 years to prepare for a "normal" ratio. During that time we can study the policies of other countries many of which are already in place to deal with this changing reality.

Early retirement, re-education and multiple careers are some of the issues which will have to be examined as the age mix changes grow more pronounced. Trying to bury the issue by admitting large numbers of immigrants or by spurring the birth rate will not solve the economic and social problems associated with aging, it will simply add to our overall economic, social and environmental problems.

Aims and Objectives



Zero Population Growth
of Canada Inc.,
P.O. Box 113,
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To establish a population policy for Canada based on the sustainable environmental and economic potential of the country.

To develop awareness of the strong linkages between human numbers, human activity and the environment and human well-being.

To make it clear that Canada is no longer an untapped frontier capable of accommodating a larger population but a nation with a declining environment that must now work toward long term solutions for its environmental and economic problems.

Population and environmental problems must be dealt with in the nations in which they occur.

Canada contributes disproportionately to global environmental degradation. Canadians must reduce their consumption of natural resources as rapidly as possible to levels that can be sustained by our diminishing environment.

Please help us to establish a stable population and an environment strategy for Canada. Annual Membership is \$20.00.