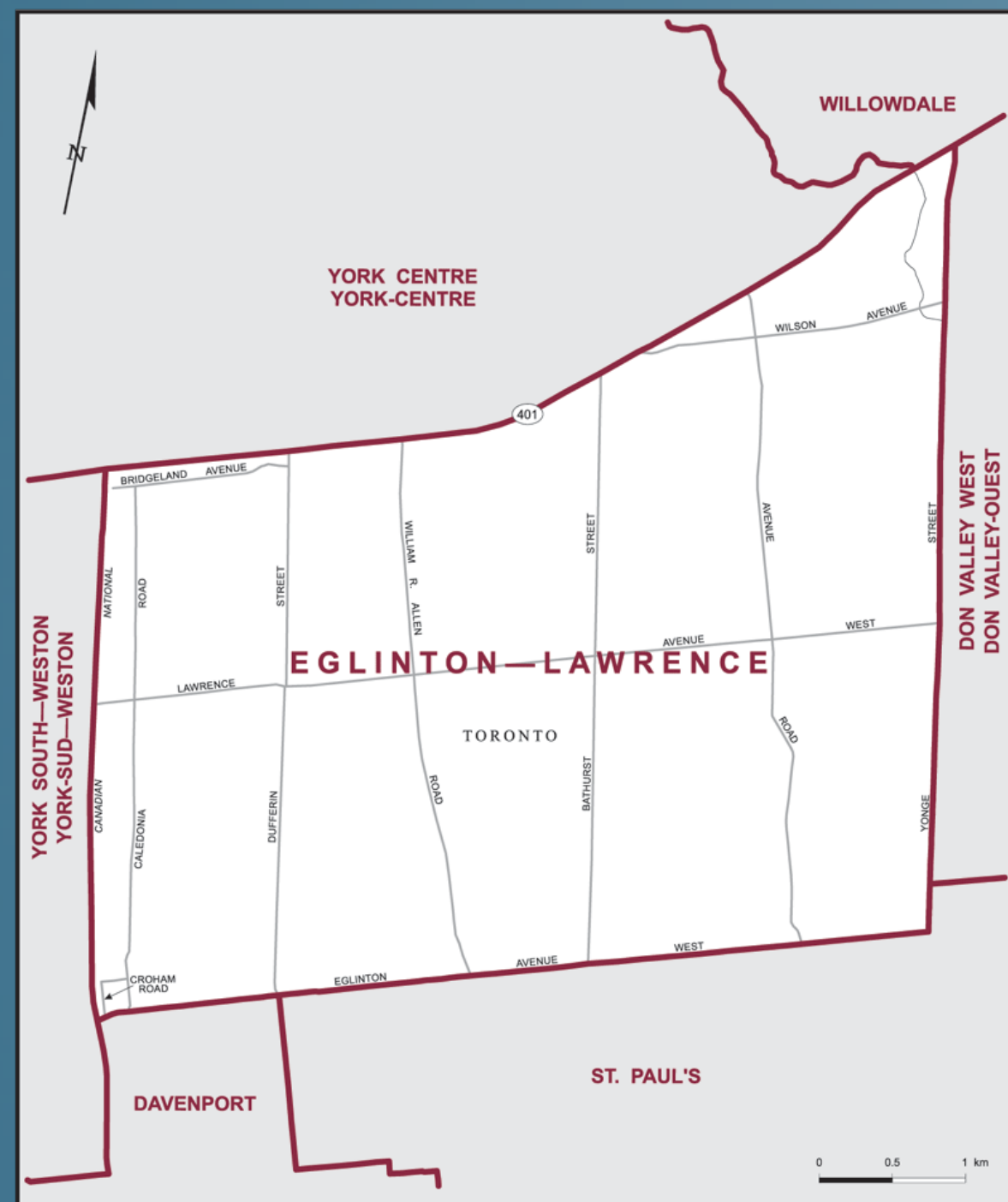


Immigrants and Urban Landscapes: Who is Visible?

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Abstract:

It is often considered that the presence of ethnic businesses, religious establishments and social organizations is evidence of a nearby concentration of one or more ethnic or visible minority groups. However, in the urban landscape of Toronto where the settlement of immigrants has changed over time, some businesses and services remain after their targeted population has left the area.



This map depicts the 2011 Census boundaries for the Eglinton-Lawrence electoral district
Retrieved from: Elections Canada

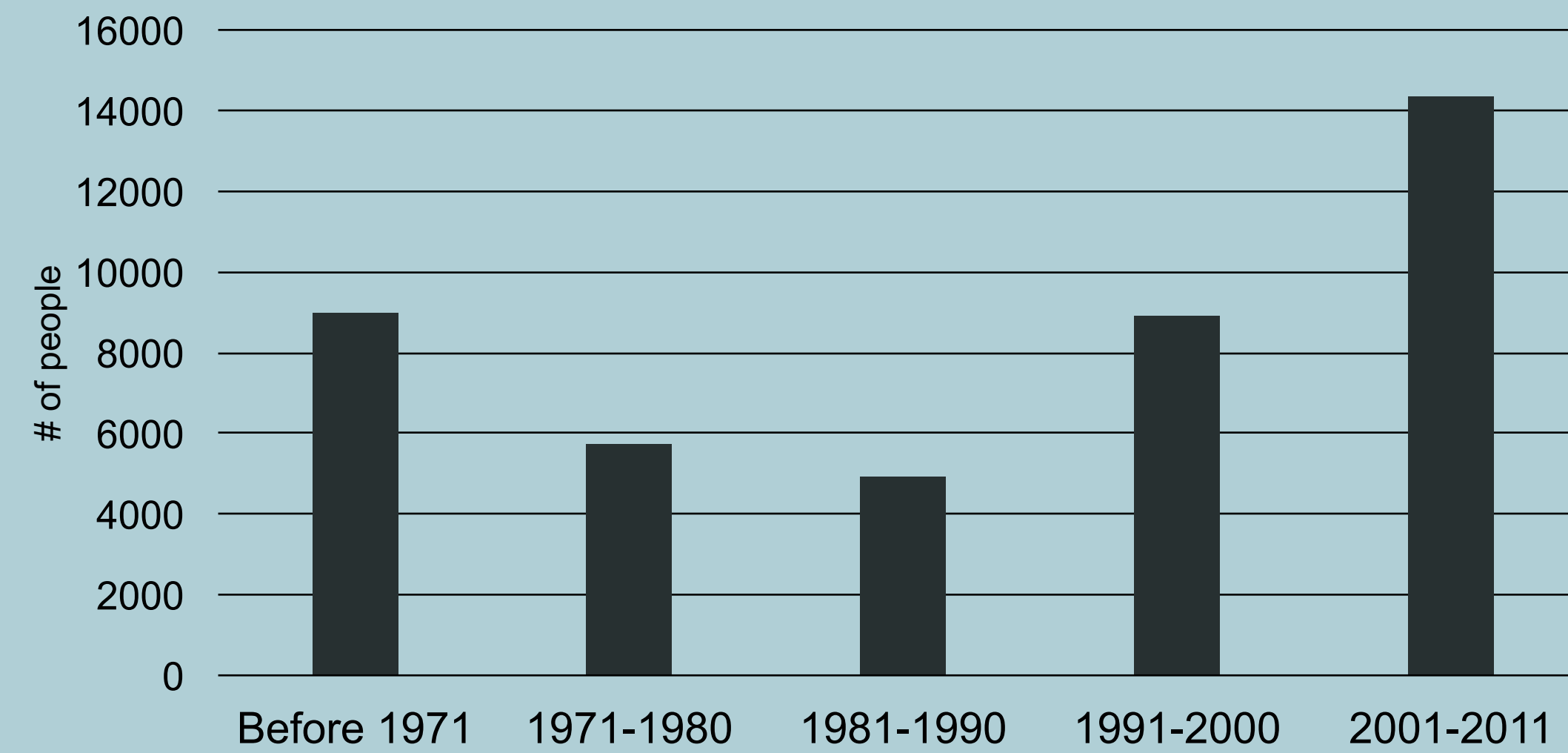
Thesis:

After reviewing the 2011 Census data and conducting fieldwork observations for the Eglinton-Lawrence electoral district, evidence of a Jewish population is most visible while a rapidly increasing Filipino population is beginning to be represented.

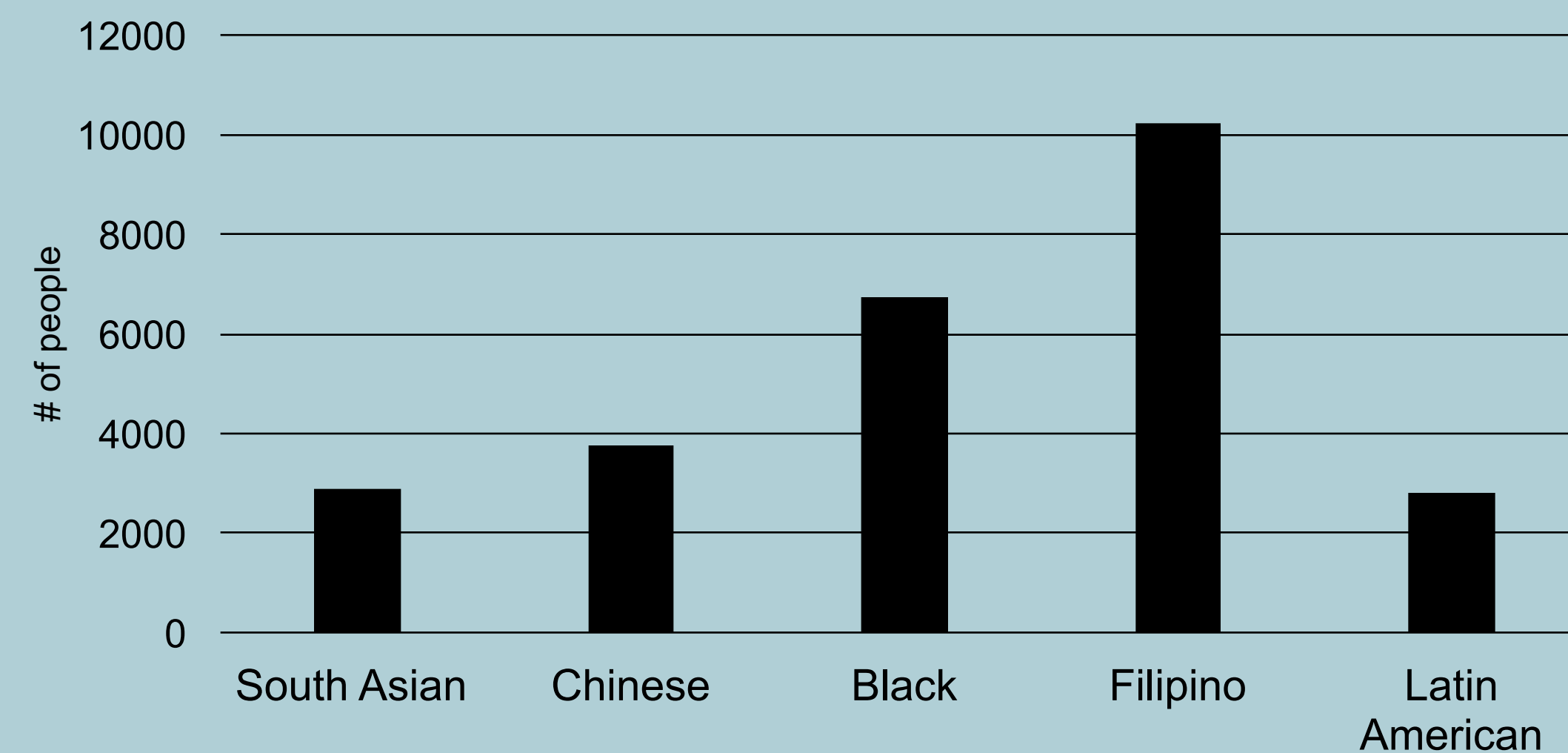
Methodology:

This research analyzes selected data from the 2011 Census. The observation area selected for analysis was the Bathurst Street and Lawrence Street West intersection, including the surrounding areas north until the 401, which is the northern boundary of the district.

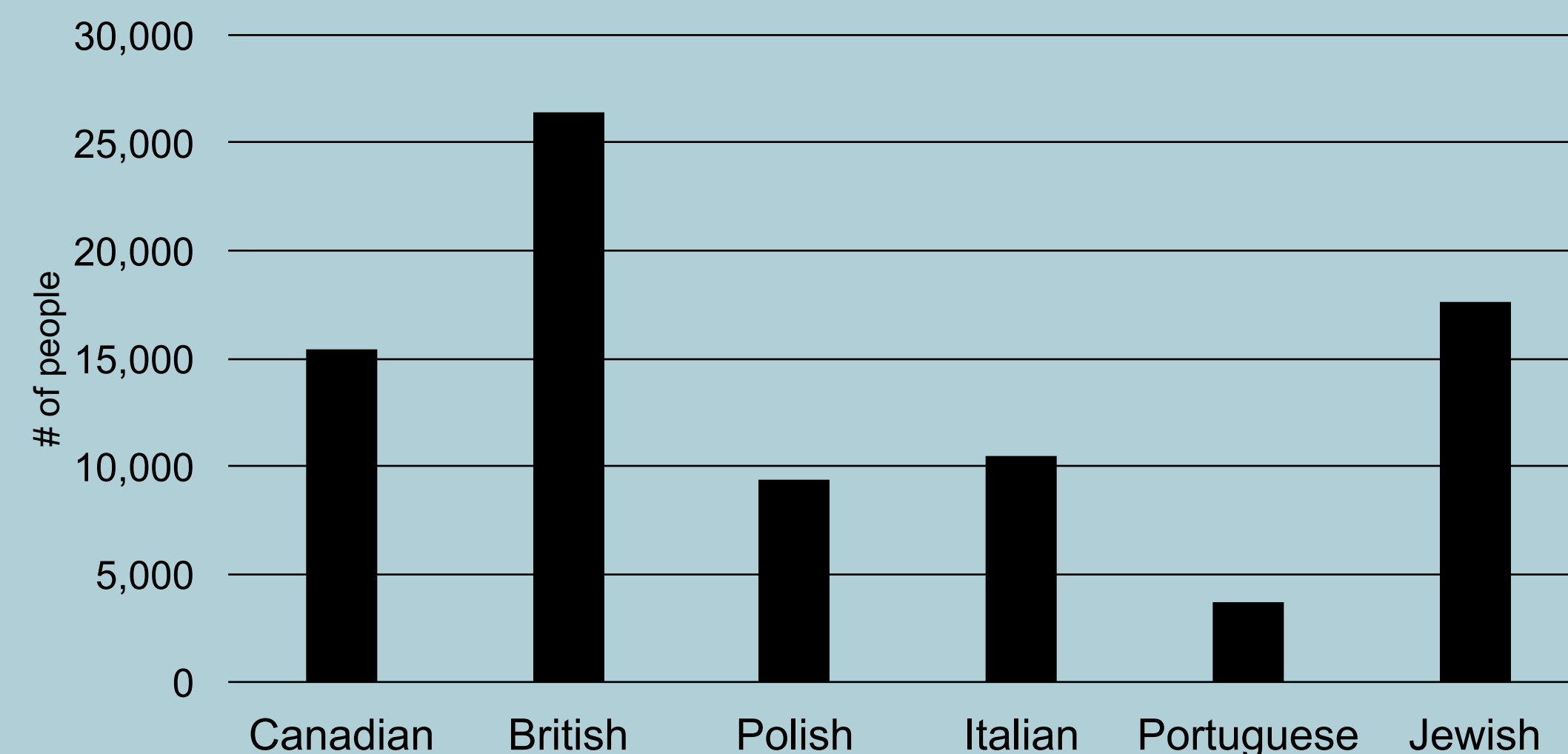
Period of Immigration



Visible Minority Population



Ethnic Origins



Results:

In the sample area, there were 22 observed businesses targeting the Jewish population, 4 catered to the Filipino community and 6 facilities that targeted new immigrant populations in general. The Filipino and immigrant targeted services were in poor locations with discrete indicators, including small, handmade signs or flags. The other ethnic and visible minority populations were the most difficult to discern. In fact, they were not clearly evident on the landscape at all, with the exception of a Kosher sushi restaurant and Chinese restaurant that were implied to target the Jewish community.

Discussion:

Jewish Community:

- A broad range of services to Judaism as both a religious and ethno cultural group
- Overcame decades of racialization and ghettoization to voluntarily settle in close proximity to each other to form an ethnic enclave
- Consistent message that the Jewish identity must be fostered and maintained

Filipino Population:

- Services primarily focused on employment training (caregiver, healthcare) and remittances
- The Philippines government actively promotes emigration through training workers, especially women, for export
- Filipina's are the most represented group in the Live-In-Caregiver Program, which was introduced in 1992

Conclusion:

Current trends and statistics indicate that the Jewish population, like many other 'old stock' European ethnic groups, are experiencing a decline in immigration, whereas the high rate of South Asian migration does not indicate to be slowing down. The emerging presence of the Filipino population on the landscape is expected to continue to develop as the community enters the long-term settlement stage.