

LITERATURE REVIEW –

Some stats from “ESL and Literacy Survey 2008”

According to the International Adult Literacy Skills Survey (IALSS)

- 42% of adult Canadians 65 years and under scored below Level 3 in prose literacy, (considered to be the level at which one can deal with the demands of a knowledge society).

If this group is split into native-born Canadians and immigrants,

- The native-born rate is 37%
- 60% for the immigrant population.
- Furthermore, 37% of immigrants scored at Level 1 (the lowest level) – double the proportion of those among the native-born population

(“International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey”, *The Daily*, November 9, 2005.

A difference in scores is seen even among university-educated immigrants.

- Whereas 2% of the university-educated Canadian-born scored at Level 1 prose literacy proficiency,
- 18% of recent immigrants scored at this level (ibid.).

P.S. – these stats are not predicted to improve over the next decade. ABC Life Literacy