

ABSTRACT

In this study a group of one hundred Jamaican immigrants to Toronto, Canada, are interviewed and a questionnaire filled out, for the purpose of determining the degree to which they have assimilated. For this purpose the following assimilation indices are used; Actual Social Association; Desired Social Association; Sentimental Attachment; Emotional Attachment; Food Preference; Job Satisfaction; Perceived Acceptance and Political Participation.

Four factors: Social, and Economic Expectations prior to emigration, Colour, and Vocational Training, are correlated with assimilation scores, in order to establish whether or not any one of them has an influence on the degree of assimilation attained by respondents. It is established that Vocational Training and Colour influence assimilation, Social Expectations and Economic Expectations do not.

The four factors, as well as additional factors such as age, sex, length of residence, marital status, formal education, discrimination experienced, income in Jamaica, income in Canada, and difference between income in Jamaica and Canada, are correlated with Total Assimilation Index (TI), individual assimilation scores, and each other by analysis of variance, by computing contingency tables and χ^2 -values, and by establishing correlation coefficients. Results so obtained are presented, analysed, and interpreted when found to be statistically significant.

The statistical analysis is preceded by a Summary of Jamaican Emigration, a short exposition of Canadian Immigration Policy and Procedure, and a History of Toronto's Negro Population. Definitions, concepts and assimilation indices are discussed, and the latter as used in this study substantiated in detail. Some case histories are appended.