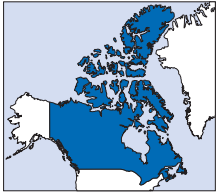


Canada



In 2006, about 252 000 people were admitted to Canada as permanent residents, a 4% decrease over the previous year. Family migration was the only category registering an increase, reaching the highest level in a decade. China and India remained the top two source countries of permanent migration, accounting for 13% and 12%, respectively, of new arrivals.

In 2006, provincial nominee admissions reached more than 13 300, an increase of two-thirds over 2005. The increase is due largely to a growing volume of nominations by provinces in response to strong demand for workers with specialised skills in certain regions and labour markets across Canada. Applications for provincial nominees are generally processed with priority by the federal government.

Citizenship and Immigration Canada has extended its network of framework agreements for cooperation on immigration with Canada's provinces and territories. A comprehensive agreement with Alberta was signed in May 2007 to meet Alberta's growing demand for labour. Among other measures, the agreement removed the limit on the number of immigrants who can be nominated through the provincial nominee programme. The intention to develop an annex to facilitate the entry of temporary foreign workers was also announced. Similar agreements have also been signed with other provinces, including a recent one with Nova Scotia in September 2007.

The Foreign Credential Referral Office (FCRO) was launched in spring 2007 with the aim, among other objectives, of helping internationally trained individuals, both immigrants and native-born, find the information they need to put their skills to work in the Canadian labour market. These services are now being expanded to key origin countries, namely China, India and the Philippines with a view to providing pre-embarkation information on the foreign credential recognition process and the Canadian labour market.

In contrast to the decline in permanent migration, temporary migration has been on the rise, with increases in the order of 10% in all major categories (workers, students and refugee claimants). The largest group among these consists of temporary foreign workers, whose number reached almost 113 000 – the highest level since the 1970s. The United States remained the leading source country, followed by Mexico, France and the Philippines which had a 40% increase.

Changes to the Temporary Foreign Workers Program were announced in 2006-07. These included extending the maximum duration of the work permit for live-in caregivers and for foreign workers with less formal training. Finally, the process for employers hiring a foreign worker will be speeded up.

Status changes of foreign students have increased significantly since 2002. In 2006, almost 11 000 foreign students became permanent residents, and a further 2 800 former students were admitted after having passed through the status of temporary foreign worker. A proposal for a new avenue to immigration, allowing for facilitated status changes of Canadian-educated foreign students and experienced temporary foreign workers, was announced in 2007. In addition, possibilities for international students to work outside of their campus have been extended to students from selected private institutions.

In 2007, Canada strengthened the provisions for the protection of victims of human trafficking to include an extension of the length of the temporary resident permit for which they are eligible from 120 to 180 days. In addition, victims can now apply for a work permit, and normally applicable permit fees will be waived.

In 2006, almost 260 000 permanent residents were granted Canadian citizenship, which represents an increase of one-third compared to the previous year and one of the highest levels ever.

For further information...

www.cic.gc.ca

Flow data on foreigners

Migration flows (foreigners) National definition	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level ('000)			
					1995-2000	2001-2006	2006			
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>										
Inflows	7.3	7.4	8.1	7.7	6.9	7.6	251.6			
Outflows			
Migration inflows (foreigners) by type Permit based statistics (standardised)	Thousands		% distribution		Inflows of top 10 nationalities as a % of total inflows of foreigners					
	2005	2006	2005	2006						
Work	61.6	55.7	23.5	22.1						
Family (incl. accompanying family)	158.0	153.0	60.3	60.8						
Humanitarian	42.4	42.7	16.2	17.0						
Free movements	-	-	-	-						
Others	0.1	0.1	-	0.1						
Total	262.2	251.6								
Temporary migration	2000	2005	2006	Annual average				Inflows of top 10 nationalities as a % of total inflows of foreigners		
				2000-2006						
<i>Thousands</i>										
International students	60.0	57.5	61.7	61.1						
Trainees	..	..	..	..		
Working holiday makers	..	..	28.0	..				
Seasonal workers	18.0	22.1	22.8	20.4						
Intra-company transfers	1.6	4.5	5.7	3.5						
Other temporary workers	79.0	80.5	89.9	78.5						
Total	262.2	251.6								
Inflows of asylum seekers	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level ('000)			
					1995-2000	2001-2006	2006			
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>										
	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	22.9			

Macroeconomic, demographic and labour market indicators

Macroeconomic indicators	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level
					1995-2000	2001-2006	2006
Real GDP (growth, %)	2.8	5.2	3.1	2.8	4.1	2.7	
GDP/capita (growth, %) – level in US Dollars	1.7	4.3	2.1	1.7	3.2	1.7	31 175
Employment (growth, %) – level in thousands	1.8	2.5	1.4	2.0	2.1	2.0	16 484
Unemployment (% of labour force)	9.5	6.8	6.8	6.3	8.5	7.1	
Components of population growth	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level ('000)
					1995-2000	2001-2006	
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>							
Total	11.2	10.1	9.9	..	9.8	10.3	
Natural increase	5.7	3.6	3.3	..	4.5	3.4	
Net migration	5.5	6.5	6.6	..	5.3	6.9	
Total population	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level ('000)
					1995-2000	2001-2006	2006
<i>(Annual growth %)</i>							
Native-born	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	26 436
Foreign-born	2.2	1.8	2.6	2.7	1.8	2.6	6 187
National	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Naturalisations	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level
					1995-2000	2001-2006	2006
<i>As a percentage of foreign population</i>							
	..	..	..	..	..	..	259 046
Labour market outcomes	1995	2000	2005	2006	Average		Level ('000)
					1995-2000	2001-2003	
<i>Employment/population ratio</i>							
Native-born men	75.9	77.4	..	..	75.8	77.6	
Foreign-born men	75.6	77.0	..	..	75.3	75.6	
Native-born women	62.0	66.0	..	..	63.3	67.5	
Foreign-born women	55.0	59.6	..	..	56.8	58.7	
<i>Unemployment rate</i>							
Native-born men	8.6	5.7	..	..	7.5	6.3	
Foreign-born men	10.4	6.1	..	..	8.3	7.7	
Native-born women	9.8	6.2	..	..	8.3	6.1	
Foreign-born women	13.3	8.7	..	..	10.3	9.5	

Notes and sources are at the beginning of the Chapter.

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/433886063524>