



Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Trends and Policies Affecting Ottawa's Progress
Corinne Prince St-Amand

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Canada¹⁰¹



Outline

- Immigration Trends
- The Canadian Story
- Policy Priorities in Economic Immigration
 - Permanent Economic Immigration
 - Temporary Economic Immigration
- Innovative Approaches to Settlement
- Future Direction






Immigration Trends

- Over the past 10 years, the overall level of permanent immigration to Canada has remained relatively static, ranging from 240,000-280,000.
- However, there are several factors that will either continue to influence migration to Canada or emerge as trends:
 - The state of the European economy;
 - Conflict continues to be a major driver of forced migration; and
 - Impacts of environmental changes.






Canada is a leader in managed migration

- In the past decade, a focus on human capital improved outcomes for recent immigrants, especially economic immigrants.
 - Significant demand led to growing backlogs.
 - A hybrid system introduced in 2008, based on a human capital approach, but with intake controls and occupational filters.
 - Express Entry now allowing Canada to select the best and brightest immigrants, rather than adopting a “next-in-queue” approach.
 - Involvement of employers and Provinces/Territories is helping to improve the labour market responsiveness of the economic selection system.
 - Current approach to migration, anchored in human capital, is facilitating short-term success that can also be sustained over the long-run.
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Policy priorities: Permanent economic immigration

- Continue to implement Express Entry.
 - Continue reforms in Immigrant Investors program to better align program with economic priorities.
 - Implement reforms to the Caregivers program.
 - Strengthen Provincial Nominee Program to address program integrity issues and labour market needs.
 - Explore policy options to increase Francophone immigration outside Quebec.
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Policy priorities: Temporary economic immigration

- Implement reforms to Temporary Foreign Worker Program.
- Advance International Mobility Program reforms.
- Strengthen International Experience Canada program.
- Develop and implement a new investigative and compliance regime for Temporary Foreign Workers and International Students.





Express Entry

- Express Entry is a significant departure in the way Canada selects, receives and processes certain permanent residence applications.
 - Select the best, rather than those who apply first.
 - System actively and purposefully issues invitations to apply only to the ones best positioned for economic success in Canada.
- Express Entry is designed to prevent new backlogs and enable:
 - Better economic outcomes
 - Much faster processing
 - Improved labour market responsiveness





Ensuring all immigrants integrate into the labour market

- Irrespective of the primary reason for coming to Canada, a large share of permanent residents from every immigration program are destined to the workforce.
- Non-economic immigrants have weaker - but still significant - labour market attachment, reflecting the different motivations for coming to Canada:
 - For example, during the fifth year after landing in Canada, 65% of refugees and 68% of sponsored spouses report employment earnings, compared with 78% of skilled worker principal applicants, and 82% for provincial nominee principal applicants.
- Non-economic immigrants and their dependants have accounted for roughly 40% of all immigrants over the past ten years, and integration programs help them participate in the Canadian labour market which benefits the economy.
- CIC's Settlement Program has a clear focus on labour market integration
 - Employment-specific supports include Canadian work experience opportunities, mentoring, and connections to employers, which are made available to newcomers of various skill levels, including services for those not selected as economic immigrants (e.g. spouses, refugees).





Innovative approaches to settlement are being implemented

Services are increasingly available pre-arrival

- Canada funds pre-arrival services in over 40 countries to ensure newcomers get reliable information about life in Canada, prepare for their trip, start the settlement process, and prepare to work as early as possible.
- The Canadian Immigrant Integration Program (CIIP) helps immigrants prepare for the Canadian labour market through in-person and online offerings, mentoring, job preparation workshops and links to supports in Canada.
- Pre-arrival Services are being expanded to reach more newcomers earlier, including up to 25% of economic immigrants in-person and via online services, and up to 75% of refugees in-person.

Newcomers are learning about alternative careers

- Canada is piloting multi-stakeholder, sector-specific alternative career events.
- These sessions provide newcomers with information on professions related to the one they practiced in their home country; identify transferable skills; and help create links with employers.
- Alternative careers can be pursued while working towards licensure/certification, or as part of the pursuit of a new career.

Social innovation tools are being piloted

- Social innovation is an approach and a process that uses different actions to implement new ideas to deliver improved outcomes by bringing together both traditional and non-traditional players.
- With a focus on outcomes for individuals (such as more effective integration) or organizations (such as more resilience), social innovation addresses complex social and economic challenges by doing things differently to create new, more sustainable solutions.





Future Direction

- Consider global, national, provincial and municipal trends
 - as opportunities
- Align proposed strategies with federal, provincial and municipal policies and direction.
- Build on success – Ottawa as a national leader
- If it isn't broke – don't fix it

