

A close-up, angled view of a green binder with yellow tabs and handwritten numbers. The binder is positioned diagonally across the frame. The tabs are yellow and have black numbers written on them. The numbers are 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50. The numbers are written in a cursive, handwritten style. The binder is set against a dark, textured background.

# 1. Trends In Immigration

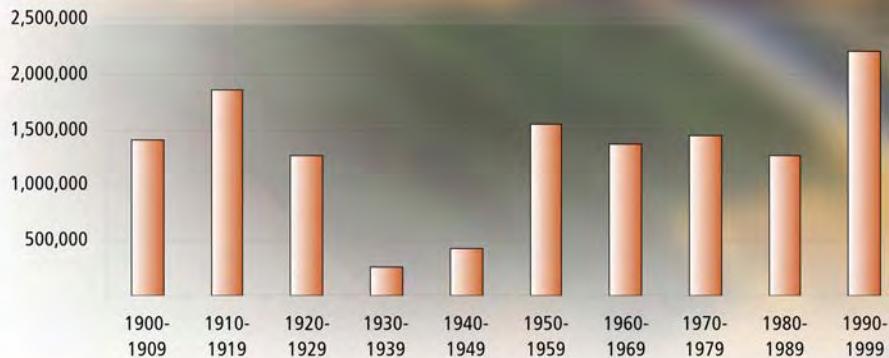
## How Many Immigrants Come To Canada Each Year?

During the 1990s, an average of 220,000 immigrants came to Canada each year, well above the annual average of the 1980s (125,000 per year). In 2002 – the most recent year for which data is available – 229,091 immigrants made Canada their

new home. Citizenship and Immigration Canada has a “long-term objective of moving gradually to immigration levels of approximately one percent of Canada’s population, while bearing in mind Canada’s absorptive capacity.”<sup>1</sup>

Immigration is an increasingly important component of net population growth in Canada. According to Statistics Canada, immigration represents close to 70% of current population growth, up dramatically from under 20% in 1976. Given today’s below-replacement fertility rates, within 25 years immigration will be the only source of net population growth factor, as deaths will outnumber births.

Immigrants to Canada in the 20th Century



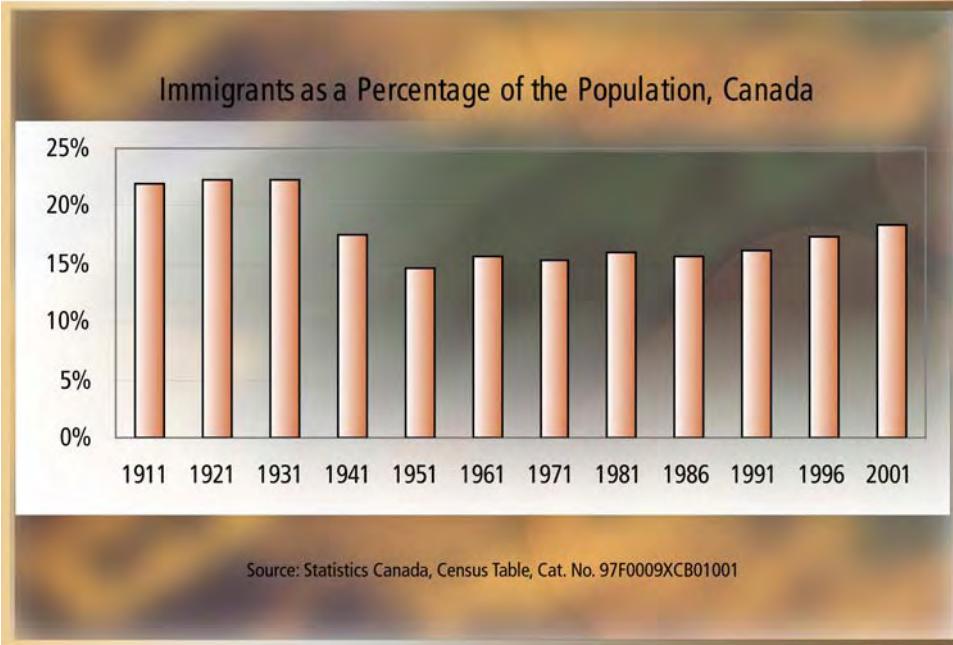
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Facts and Figures 2002, Immigration Overview.

<sup>1</sup> Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Pursuing Canada’s Commitment to Immigration: The Immigration Plan for 2002.

# One In Five Canadians Is An Immigrant

By historical standards, the share of Canada’s population composed of immigrants has always been relatively high – between 15% and 22% during the last century. Indeed, Canada’s history and development are uniquely tied to immigration. In 2001, 18% of Canadians were immigrants and 39% of the population was either first- or second-generation immigrants, that is, persons born outside Canada or having at least one parent born

outside Canada. Because immigration has been a growing factor in recent population growth, trends suggest immigrants will represent an even greater share of the Canadian population in the future.



## How Canada Compares With Other OECD Nations

Canada has a relatively large immigrant component to its population. In a comparison of 28 OECD countries, Canada ranked 5th behind Luxembourg, Australia, New Zealand and Switzerland in terms of the share of its resident population that is

immigrant. The United States ranked 6<sup>th</sup>, but with 10.4% of its population composed of immigrants, compared with Canada's 18.4%. Only two other countries – the United States and Germany – have more immigrants than Canada's 5.4 million recorded on the 2001 Census.

While immigrants make up a greater part of the total population in Canada compared to the U.S., some regions within the two countries are quite similar in terms of immigration's contribution to population growth. For instance, in the Northeast United States, all of the population growth between 1990 and 2000 was attributable to new immigrants.<sup>1</sup> In Ontario, the comparable figure covering 1991 to 2001 is 78%.

### Immigrants as a Share of Total Population, 2000

#### Selected OECD Countries

Country (rank, 28 countries)	Immigrants as a % of Total Population	Number of Immigrants (000's)
Luxembourg (1)	37.3	165
Australia (2)	23.6	4,517
New Zealand (3)	19.5	699
Switzerland (4)	19.3	1,397
Canada (5) <sup>1</sup>	18.4	5,448
United States (6)	10.4	28,400
Germany (8)	8.9	7,297
France (10) <sup>2</sup>	5.6	3,263
Sweden (11)	5.4	477
United Kingdom (15)	4.0	2,342
Ireland (16)	3.3	127
Finland (22)	1.8	91
Japan (23)	1.3	1,686
Mexico (25)	0.5	406
Poland (28)	0.1	not available

<sup>1</sup> Canada data derived from 2001 Census. <sup>2</sup> France, data for 1999.

<sup>1</sup> Immigrant Workers and the Great American Job Machine: The Contributions of New Foreign Immigration to National and Regional Labour Force Growth in the 1990s. Center for Labor Market Studies, Northeastern University, 2002.

## The “Old Country” For New Immigrants: Top Ten Places Of Birth Of Recent Immigrants

Immigrants from all over the world come to live and work in Canada. Among Canada’s recent immigrants – those arriving in Canada after 1990 – the most common country of birth is the People’s Republic of China, followed by India and the Philippines. Ten countries account for about one-half of Canada’s recent immigrant population. Nearly three-quarters (73%) of recent immigrants are members of a visible minority.

In the context of an increasingly global economy, the diversity of the immigrant population provides Canada with a unique and important opportunity to draw upon the languages, traditions, education, skills and work experience gained abroad. Such

diversity also poses challenges in areas such as English/French language training and the assessment and recognition of foreign credentials.

**Source Countries of Recent Immigrants arriving in Canada  
between 1991-2001**

Place of Birth	Number	Percentage
China, People’s Republic of	197,355	10.8
India	156,120	8.5
Philippines	122,015	6.7
Yugoslavia, former*	67,750	3.7
Sri Lanka	62,585	3.4
Pakistan	57,990	3.2
Taiwan	53,750	2.9
United States	51,440	2.8
Iran	47,075	2.6
Poland	43,370	2.4
Total of Top Ten countries	859,450	46.9
All other countries	971,230	53.1
Total	1,830,680	100.0

\* Includes Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia, and Yugoslavia.  
Source: 2001 Census.

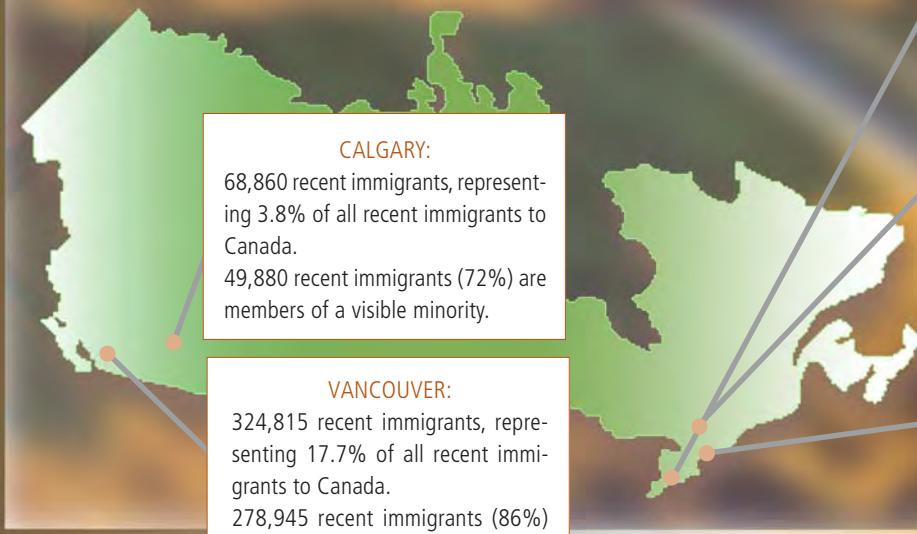
## Immigrant Settlement Patterns Within Canada – “It’s who you know”

Eighty percent of all immigrants arriving between 1991 and 2001 reside in Canada’s five largest urban centres. The Toronto metropolitan area alone is home to 43% of all recent immigrants.

A recent study by Statistics Canada found that the most important reason for choosing a particular location in which to

settle was because family or friends were living there.<sup>1</sup> Fifty-nine percent gave this reason. The second most important reason, cited by 14% of immigrants, was job prospects. Family, friendship and community networks appear to be decisively important in the decision about where to reside in Canada. Immigrant settlement patterns have implications for the delivery of employment, education, health, and other services, and are an important factor to consider in Canada’s new urban agenda.

### 80% of Recent Immigrants to Canada Live in Five Metropolitan Areas



#### CALGARY:

68,860 recent immigrants, representing 3.8% of all recent immigrants to Canada.  
49,880 recent immigrants (72%) are members of a visible minority.

#### VANCOUVER:

324,815 recent immigrants, representing 17.7% of all recent immigrants to Canada.  
278,945 recent immigrants (86%) are members of a visible minority.

#### TORONTO:

792,035 recent immigrants, representing 43.3% of all recent immigrants to Canada.  
624,040 recent immigrants (79%) are members of a visible minority.

#### OTTAWA:

63,945 recent immigrants, representing 3.5% of all recent immigrants to Canada.  
47,555 recent immigrants (74%) are members of a visible minority.

#### MONTREAL:

215,115 recent immigrants, representing 11.8% of all recent immigrants to Canada.  
147,705 recent immigrants (69%) are members of a visible minority.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: Process, progress and prospects, 2003, Catalogue no. 89-611-XIE.