Admissions of Permanent Residents (PRs) in Canada and Atlantic Canada

Annual trends

Since the turn of current century, PR admissions to Canada rose steadily from 250,590 in 2001 to 341,175 in 2019 (a rise of about 36.4%). The COVID-19 outbreak caused a sudden decline in 2020 due to the closure of visa offices overseas. After that, there has been a steep rise annually. In 2023, there were 471,810 admissions – about 88 percent higher than in 2001 (Chart 1).

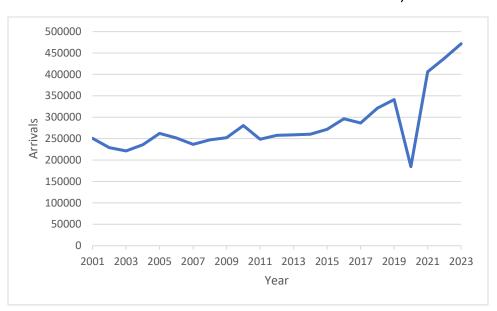


Chart 1: Annual Admissions of Permanent Residents, Canada

Note: In the first quarter of 2024, total admission was 121,620.

Source: IRCC.

Atlantic Canada exhibited similar trend over the period (Chart 2). Between 2001 and 2019, the region saw a six-fold increase in PR admissions (those declaring an Atlantic province as intended destination) and when immigration picked up from 2021, its 2023 admission was about 11 times higher than it was in 2001. This rise of inflows over the entire period is largely attributed to the deliberate attempts for attracting immigrants undertaken by federal, provincial, and municipal

governments as well as by community organizations. Immigration has now become a key source of population growth in the region. Without immigration, the region's population growth would have been negative.

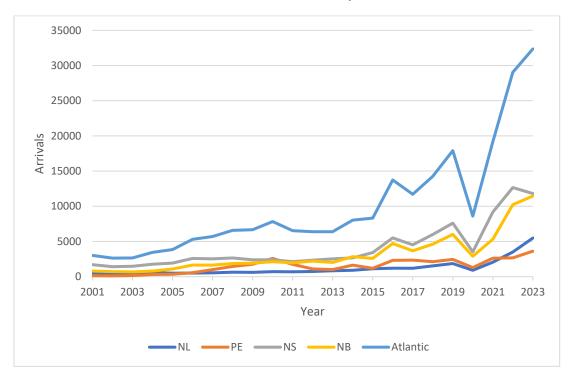


Chart 2: Admissions of Permanent Residents, Atlantic Canada.

Note: During the first quarter, 10,725 PRs were admitted in Atlantic Canada. Their provincial distribution was: NS and NB 3,995 each; PE 1,330; NL 1,405.

Source: IRCC

Where do PRs come from?

Immigrants who are granted PR status in Canada belong to diverse source countries. However, in 2021, half of them were admitted from five source countries and in the first quarter of 2024, their top five source countries comprised more than half of total arrivals. There are significant changes in the rankings and composition of top five source countries. While China occupied the top place in 2001 with 16% PRs being admitted from there, it was superseded by India in 2023 and in the first quarter of 2024 when the admissions from India exceeded 30% of total. Although UK (and its overseas territories) and the US both entered the top five source

countries' list in 2011, their composition in total admissions was a trickle, 1.3% and 0.4%, respectively. US was also on the list in 2021 and up from its 5th position in 2011 to 4th, but did not make the list since. In summary, immigration in Canada is becoming more concentrated in top five source countries dominated by India, followed by China. (Table 1).

Table 1: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Admissions, Canada.

	Year of arrival											
Country	2001		201	2011		2021		2023		ch 2024		
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank		
Philippines	13,810	4	35,775	1	12,470	3	26,945	3	7,990	3		
China, People's	40,045	1	28,925	2	30,665	2	31,780	2	8,130	2		
Republic of												
Afghanistan							20,185	4	5,020	4		
India	31,135	2	26,500	3	126,495	1	139,795	1	37,885	1		
UK & Overseas Territories			3,180	4								
Nigeria							17,455	5	4,690	5		
Iran					6,135	5						
US			1,210	5	8,865	4						
Pakistan	16,800	3										
Korea, Republic of	9,615	5										
Total -Top Five Countries	111,405		95,590		184,630		236,160		63,715			
Others	139,185		152,965		221,415		235,650		57,905			
Total Arrivals	250,590		248,555		406,045		471,810		121,620			

Source: IRCC.

PR admissions are also concentrated in top five source countries in Atlantic Canada although their composition is slightly different from that observed nationally. India remains the top source country since 2021. China occupied the third place in 2021 and 2023 but fell to 4th in the first quarter of 2024 when Afghanistan appeared on the list. Philippines remained the second largest source from 2021, rising from its 4th position in 2011 (Table 2). Some of the source countries that are represented in top five list of the region do not make to the list nationally (for example, Syria, Jordan, Morocco, Bhutan, Brazil, and Cameroon). This could mean that information regarding the regional attempts to attract immigrants is widespread around the world.

Table 2: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Arrivals, Atlantic Canada

		Year Of Arrival											
Country	20	2001		2011		2021		2023		2024: 1st quarter			
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank			
China, People's Republic of	275	1	1,620	1	1,075	3	950	3	355	4			
US	245	2											
UK & Overseas Territories	175	3	490	2									
India	120	4			6,515	1	9,415	1	3,605	1			
Jordan	120	4											
Morocco	70	5					700	5					
Afghanistan									415	3			
Iran			425	3									
Philippines			280	4	1,745	2	3,965	2	1,450	2			
Korea, Republic of			275	5	345	5							
Bhutan													
Nigeria					750	4							
Brazil													
Cameroon, Federal Republic of							870	4	310	5			
Syria													
Top 5 Total	1,005		3,090		10,430		15,900		6,135				
Others	2,010		3,435		8,715		16,470		4,590				
Total Arrivals	3,015		6,525		19,145		32,370		10,725				

Source country composition of PRs varies across Atlantic provinces. India now occupies the first place in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island but not in Newfoundland and Labrador where it is next to Philippines in the second place. (Tables 3-7).

Table 3: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Arrivals, Nova Scotia

Country	Year Of Arrival									
	2001		20	2011 2021		20	2023		1st quarter	
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank
China, People's	140	1	170	3	870	2	760	3	290	3
Republic of										
US	130	2	130	4						
Jordan	115	3								
UK & Overseas	105	4	305	1						
Territories										
India	95	5			3500	1	4425	1	1840	1
Philippines			210	2	680		845	2	355	2
Bhutan			170	3						
Egypt			110	5		3				
Korea, Republic of					345	4			90	5
Nigeria					335	5	340	5		
Syria							380	4		
Afghanistan									105	4
Vietnam									105	4
Top 5 Total	585		1095		5730		6750		2785	
Others	1110		1040		3435		5055		1210	
Total Arrivals	1,695		2,135		9,165		11,805		3,995	

Table 4: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Arrivals, New Brunswick

Country	Year Of Arrival											
v	2001		20	2011		2021		2023		l st quarter		
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank		
China, People's Republic of	80	1	295	1								
Morocco	70	2					700	4				
United States of America	65	3										
Afghanistan	40	4							185	5		
Eritrea	40	4										
United Kingdom &	30	5	115	3								
Overseas Territories												
Korea, Republic of			275	2								
Vietnam			110	4								
Iran			105	5								
India					1,285	1	2,210	1	910	1		
Philippines					525	2	1,085	2	480	2		
Nigeria					270	3			215	4		
Brazil					225	4			185	5		
Ukraine					205	5						
Cameroon, Federal							870	3	310	3		
Republic of												
Algeria							600	5				
Top 5 Total	325		900		2,510		5,465		2,285			
Others	470		1,065		2,805		5,995		1,710			
Total Arrivals	795		1,965		5,315		11,460		3,995			

Table 5: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Arrivals, Prince Edward Island

Country	Year Of Arrival											
•	2001		20	2011		2021		2023		l st quarter		
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank		
US	20	1										
Netherlands, The	15	2										
Liberia	10	3										
Sierra Leone	10	3										
Sudan, Democratic Republic of	10	3										
UK & Overseas Territories	10	3	35	4								
Dominican Republic	5	4										
Iraq	5	4										
Jordan	5	4										
China, People's			1,070	1	130	4	190	3	65	3		
Republic of												
Iran			320	2								
Bhutan			50	3								
India			35	4	1,360	1	1,590	1	635	1		
Israel			30	5								
Philippines					265	2	735	2	225	2		
Vietnam					145	3	115	4	45	5		
Taiwan					70	5						
Bangladesh							55	5				
Hong Kong SAR									60	4		
Top 5 Total	90		1,540		1,970		2,685		1,030			
Others	45		200		645		935		300			
Total Arrivals	135		1,740		2,615		3,620		1,330			

Table 6: Top Five Source countries of Permanent Resident Arrivals, Newfoundland and Labrador

	Year Of Arrival										
Country	2001		20	2011		2021		2023		l st quarter	
	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	No.	Rank	
China, People's Republic of	55	1	85	1	75	5					
UK & Overseas Territories	30	2	35	5							
US	30	3									
India	25	4	50	3	370	1	1190	2	220	2	
Iran	20	5									
Philippines			70	2	275	3	1300	1	390	1	
Bhutan			45	4							
Afghanistan					280	2	520	3	125	3	
Nigeria					115	4	275	5	80	4	
Syria							280	4	65	5	
Ukraine											
Top 5 Total	160		285		1,115		3,565		880		
Others	230		400		935		1,920		525		
Total Arrivals	390		685		2,050		5,485		1,405		

ARGEIAD participation in events

 Religious affiliations and human capital returns in Canada July 4, 2024: Global Labor Organization virtual event Video of the event

Event summary here

- Findings of international student satisfaction survey (virtual events)
 - June 20, 2024: IRCC Research Matters Event summary here
 - May 27, 2024: Nova Scotia Research Roundtable on Immigration
 - April 11, 2024: Association of Atlantic Universities (Presentation before a panel of Presidents of Atlantic Universities)
 - March 19, 2024: University of Prince Island (Economics Department seminar)
- Immigrant human capital returns in Atlantic Canada and rest of Canada
 - March 14, 2024: National Metropolis conference Montreal

Program here: https://metropolisconference.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Final-2024-Montreal-Program-booklet-1.pdf (look for workshop F2)

- The Future of skilled labour force in Canada and Atlantic Canada
 - ARGEIAD public outreach event. Program here: https://www.smu.ca/argeiad/events/

Projects on-going

- Female immigrant labour employment (supported by Social Science and Humanities Research Council)
- Satisfaction and well-being of international students in Atlantic Canada (supported by Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency)
- Human capital returns by religious affiliation in Canada
- Immigrant human capital returns in Atlantic Canada

Coverage of research and media interviews

- CTV-News Atlantic on March 8 in relation to the public outreach event. https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/fewer-international-students-in-the-fall-could-impact-maritime-work-force-1.6800613
 - The Todd Veinotte Show March 15th 10am (citynews.ca)
 - Public Policy Forum https://mailchi.mp/ppforum.ca/this-week-an-ambulance-emergency-wage-hikes-and-superyachts-292677?e=afcca98f89