

Express Entry Year-End Report 2020



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Overview of Express Entry

Launched in January 2015, Express Entry is Canada's flagship application management system for the Federal Skilled Worker Program, the Federal Skilled Trades Program, Canadian Experience Class, and a portion of the Provincial Nominee Program. As described below, Express Entry provides the Government of Canada with the means to manage the intake of applications for permanent residence under these key economic immigration programs, while also facilitating the selection of individuals who are most likely to succeed in Canada.

As with previous reports, the Express Entry Year-End Report 2020 provides an overview of Express Entry and presents data from across all stages of the Express Entry continuum, including profile submissions, invitations to apply, applications, processing times, and admissions. Throughout the report, historical and gender-disaggregated data¹ is presented alongside the 2020 figures to provide additional context.

How Express Entry works

The Express Entry system manages applications for permanent residence in two steps. First, individuals express their interest in immigrating to Canada by completing an online profile, which is screened electronically to determine if the individual is eligible for the Federal Skilled Worker Program, the Federal Skilled Trades Program, or the Canadian Experience Class. Individuals who meet the eligibility criteria for at least one of these programs² are placed in the Express Entry pool and assigned a Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score, which is determined by comparing information in their profile to a transparent scoring criteria. Candidates in the pool are ranked against one another according to their CRS score.

Second, Ministerial Instructions are regularly published on Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship (IRCC)'s website specifying the number of invitations to apply (ITAs) for permanent residence that will be sent to candidates in the Express Entry pool on a specific date. The Ministerial Instruction also specifies the economic program(s) for which the Express Entry ITA round will apply. For each round, invitations are issued to candidates, in descending CRS score rank order, until the maximum number of invitations specified in the associated Ministerial Instruction is met. The profiles of candidates who do not receive an ITA, or decline an ITA, remain in the pool for up to 12 months.

Candidates that receive an ITA have 90 days to either decline the invitation or submit an online application for permanent residence to IRCC. Candidates who receive an ITA but take no action within the 90-day period are withdrawn from the pool. Upon receipt, an immigration officer assesses the application to verify the applicant's CRS score, program eligibility, and admissibility. If the immigration officer is satisfied that all conditions have been met and that the applicant is not inadmissible, they are approved for a permanent resident visa. Applicants and their accompanying family members become permanent residents when they are admitted to Canada. The processing standard for applications sourced via Express Entry is six months for 80% of cases. Processing time is measured from the day a complete application is received until a final decision is made by an immigration officer.

The CRS is the backbone of the Express Entry application management system. A CRS score comprises two components: core points and additional points. A candidate without an accompanying spouse³ can receive a maximum of 600 points under the core component, depending on the person's human capital characteristics (e.g., age, education, official language proficiency, work experience). These factors help predict a candidate's potential for success in the Canadian labour market.

Under the additional points component, a candidate can receive points for having a provincial/territorial nomination (600 points), arranged employment (50 or 200 points), Canadian post-secondary education credentials (15 or 30 points), French language proficiency (25 or 50 points), or a sibling in Canada (15 points).⁴ Additional points increase the probability that a given candidate will receive an ITA, but cannot alone ensure it—with the exception of the points for a provincial/territorial nomination, which are enough to virtually guarantee an ITA in a following round that includes the Provincial Nominee Program.

Candidates in the Express Entry pool can, and in some cases must, update their profile to reflect any change in circumstances, and this action can trigger a recalculation of the CRS score. Some updates are automatically triggered when milestones, such as a birthday or expiry of language test results, are reached. Accordingly, candidates can take steps to increase their CRS score, thereby increasing the probability they will be selected to receive an ITA. For example, a candidate could increase their proficiency in an official language, secure arranged employment, or provide an educational credential assessment for education acquired abroad.

The maximum CRS score a candidate can achieve is capped at 1,200 points—600 points under the core component and 600 points under the additional points component. All information provided at the profile stage for the purpose of generating a CRS score is self-reported and must be supported with appropriate documentation from the candidate at the application stage or the application could be refused.

What's new in 2020

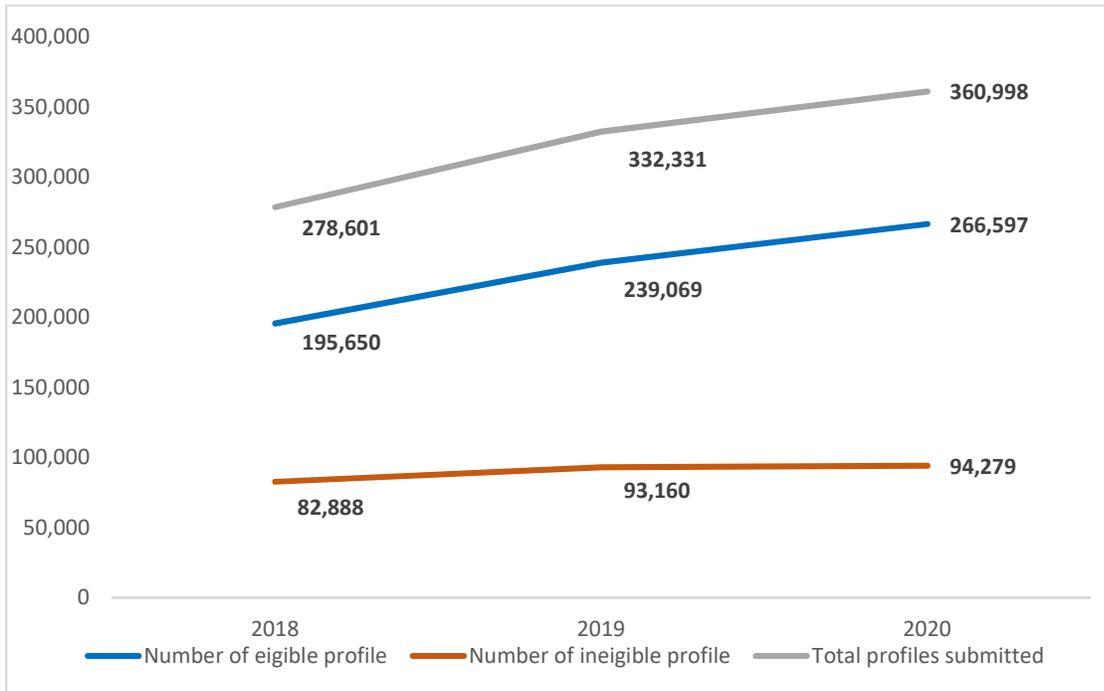
COVID-19 has been an unprecedented challenge for Canadians, newcomers, and Canada's immigration program – including Express Entry. In 2020, Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) pivoted quickly to adapt its Express Entry system to new conditions presented by the pandemic. The validity period of an invitation to apply for permanent residence was increased from 60 to 90 days to provide clients with additional time to prepare their applications, in response new pandemic-related challenges in acquiring the necessary documentation. As well, IRCC targeted its invitations to apply at Canadian Experience Class- and Provincial Nominee Program-eligible candidates, who are more likely to be physically located in Canada and therefore less impacted by border restrictions. Despite the severe and prolonged impacts of COVID-19, 2020 saw more invitations to apply issued via Express Entry than in any previous year.

IRCC also increased the number of points available to French-speaking and bilingual candidates in the Express Entry pool. On October 20, 2020, the number of points awarded through Express Entry increased from 15 to 25 for French-speaking candidates and from 30 to 50 for bilingual candidates. This change increases the likelihood of these candidates receiving an invitation to apply to come to Canada through economic immigration programs, and supports the Government of Canada in achieving its 4.4% target for French-speaking immigrants outside Quebec by 2023.

Who submitted an Express Entry profile?

In 2020, 360,998 Express Entry profiles were submitted through the system, which represents an increase of 9% from 2019 and 30% since 2018 (Figure 1). Among profiles submitted in 2020, 74% were eligible for at least one of the federal programs managed by Express Entry (i.e., the Federal Skilled Worker Program, the Federal Skilled Trades Program, or the Canadian Experience Class), continuing an upwards trend from 2019 (72%) and 2018 (70%).

Figure 1: Profile Submissions, 2018-2020



As displayed in Table 1, in 2020, more profiles were submitted by men (207,202) than women (153,674). Women submitted a slightly higher proportion of total profiles in 2020 (43%), continuing an upwards trend from 2019 (41%) and 2018 (39%). A higher proportion of profiles submitted in 2020 by women were eligible for at least one program (77%) compared to those submitted by men (71%), as was the case in 2019 (76% vs. 69%) and 2018 (74% vs. 68%).

In 2020, 64 profiles were submitted by people with unspecified genders; 58 profiles were submitted by people who indicated another gender. Because of this small count, the data presented below are not broken down by gender categorized as “unspecified” or “another.”

Table 1: Profiles submitted to Express Entry by gender

Profile outcome	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men						
Eligible	114,715	68%	135,359	69%	147,661	71%
Ineligible	54,401	32%	59,572	31%	59,541	29%
Total*	169,116	100%	194,931	100%	207,202	100%
Women						
Eligible	80,935	74%	103,710	76%	118,936	77%
Ineligible	28,487	26%	33,588	24%	34,738	23%
Total*	109,422	100%	137,298	100%	153,674	100%
Eligible	195,670	70%	239,115	72%	266,658	74%
Ineligible	82,931	30%	93,216	28%	94,340	26%
Total*	278,601	100%	332,331	100%	360,998	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary slightly compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 63, 2019 - 102, 2020 - 122)

Who got into the Express Entry pool?

The distributions of CRS scores for eligible candidate profiles at time of submission are presented in Table 2. In each year, the CRS scores were concentrated in the 301-500 range. 2020 saw a notable increase in of the proportion of eligible candidate profiles in the 451-500 range, to 27% from 18% in 2018 and 22% in 2019 . It is important to note that the Express Entry pool is dynamic, and that the distribution of CRS scores changes every time an eligible profile is submitted, updated, or expires.

Table 2: CRS score distribution of eligible profiles at time of submission

CRS Score Range	2018		2019		2020	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
701-1200	4	<1%	7	<1%	15	<1%
651-700	32	<1%	35	<1%	38	<1%
601-650	90	<1%	96	<1%	146	<1%
551-600	413	<1%	426	<1%	672	<1%
501-550	2,982	2%	3,797	2%	6,053	2%
451-500	35,853	18%	53,532	22%	71,232	27%
401-450	62,856	32%	67,444	28%	73,812	28%
351-400	56,634	29%	69,614	29%	72,129	27%
301-350	30,650	16%	37,592	16%	36,112	14%
251-300	4,186	2%	4,783	2%	4,856	2%
201-250	1,205	1%	1,133	<1%	1,081	<1%
151-200	567	<1%	492	<1%	390	<1%
101-150	154	<1%	140	<1%	113	<1%
1-100	45	<1%	24	<1%	9	<1%
Total	195,670	100%	239,115	100%	266,658	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Among individuals who submitted eligible profiles in 2020, a majority (63%) did not meet criteria for any additional points at the time of submission—this represents a gradual reduction since 2018 (71%) (Table 3).⁵ Candidates continued to most often meet criteria for Education in Canada (17%) and Siblings in Canada (13%) points, with Education in Canada experiencing significant growth. The proportion of candidates in the Express Entry pool who met criteria for additional points for having a sibling in Canada and for being proficient in French⁶ has remained stable over the last three years, following the introduction of these point types in June 2017.

Table 3: Eligible profiles submitted by additional point type

Additional point type	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
No additional points	138,143	71%	164,740	69%	168,565	63%
Arranged employment	9,694	5%	12,841	5%	18,091	7%
Education in Canada	22,453	11%	30,055	13%	45,529	17%
French-language proficiency	7,180	4%	9,356	4%	12,806	5%
Siblings in Canada	23,590	12%	29,670	12%	33,403	13%
Total*	195,670		239,115		266,658	

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified

The number of profiles with each additional point type do not sum to the total number of profiles, and the percentages by additional point type do not add to 100%, because a candidate may receive a maximum of 600 additional points. Candidates with provincial nominations (worth 600 points) may therefore meet criteria for, but not receive, other types of additional points.

In 2020, a higher number of men than women did not meet criteria for any additional points at the time of submitting an eligible profile, although this difference has diminished somewhat since 2018 (Table 4).

Table 4: Eligible profiles submitted with no additional points by gender

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	81,011	59%	92,670	56%	92,434	55%
Women	57,122	41%	72,043	44%	76,104	45%
Total*	138,143	100%	164,740	100%	168,565	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 10, 2019 - 27, 2020-27)

Education in Canada and Siblings in Canada were the most common additional point types for which both men and women met criteria in 2020 (Tables 5-8).⁷ Although men and women tended to meet criteria for each additional point types in relative proportion to their overall representation among those with eligible profiles, a considerably higher number of men met the criteria for additional points for having arranged employment.

Table 5: Eligible profiles submitted with additional points for arranged employment by gender

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	6,999	72%	9,113	71%	12,305	68%
Women	2,695	28%	3,726	29%	5,780	32%
Total*	9,694	100%	12,841	100%	18,091	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 0, 2019 - 2, 2020 - 6)

Table 6: Eligible profiles submitted with additional points for education in Canada by gender

Gender	2018	2018%	2019	2019%	2020	2020%
	number		number		number	
Men	13,194	59%	17,297	58%	25,768	57%
Women	9,255	41%	12,749	42%	19,741	43%
Total*	22,453	100%	30,055	100%	45,529	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 4, 2019 - 9, 2020 - 20)

Table 7: Eligible profiles submitted with additional points for French-language proficiency by gender

Gender	2018	2018%	2019	2019%	2020	2020%
	number		number		number	
Men	3,990	56%	4,941	53%	6,476	51%
Women	3,189	44%	4,412	47%	6,329	49%
Total*	7,180	100%	9,356	100%	12,806	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 1, 2019 - 3, 2020 - 1)

Table 8: Eligible profiles submitted with additional points for siblings in Canada by gender

Gender	2018	2018%	2019	2019%	2020	2020%
	number		number		number	
Men	12,670	54%	15,679	53%	17,120	51%
Women	10,915	46%	13,983	47%	16,272	49%
Total*	23,590	100%	29,670	100%	33,403	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Note that the data is operational and may vary a bit compared to previous years' reported numbers

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified (2018 - 5, 2019 - 8, 2020 - 11)

Who did we invite to apply for permanent residence through Express Entry?

As displayed in Table 9, IRCC held 37 ITA rounds and issued 107,350 invitations in 2020, an increase of 26% from the 85,300 invitations issued in 2019.⁸ In 2020, more than half (54%) of the total invitations issued were under the Canadian Experience Class, a significant increase from 2019 (36%) reflecting IRCC's shift to Canadian Experience Class-specific rounds of invitations following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Correspondingly, the proportion of 2020 invitations issued under the Federal

Skilled Worker Program dropped to 32%, from 45% in 2019; and the proportion of invitations issued under the Provincial Nomination Program also decreased from 18% in 2019 to 13% in 2020.

21 of the 37 rounds of invitations held in 2020 were program-specific, meaning that only candidates eligible for a specific program were invited to apply for permanent residence. 10 of these rounds invited candidates who were Canadian Experience Class-eligible, while 10 other rounds invited candidates who had received provincial nominations. CRS cut-off scores ranged from 687 to 808 for Provincial Nominee Program-specific rounds (median = 719), and from 431 to 467 for Canadian Experience Class-specific rounds (median = 447). There was also one program-specific round for candidates eligible for the Federal Skilled Trades Program, with a cut-off score of 415. These program-specific ITA rounds were conducted in line with the associated Ministerial Instructions.

Excluding these program-specific ITA rounds, the CRS cut-off score ranged from 468 to 478 in 2020 (median = 471.5), compared to 438 to 475 for non-program-specific ITA rounds in 2019 (median = 461). The rise in the median CRS cut-off score suggests that the Express Entry pool became more competitive in 2020 for candidates who were eligible to be invited under the Federal Skilled Worker Program and Federal Skilled Trades Program, as a result of IRCC's efforts to target invitations at in-Canada Express Entry candidates.

Table 9: Invitations issued to candidates in 2020 by economic immigration program

Invitation to apply date	Round Type*	CRS cut-off	Canadian Experience Class (CEC)	Provincial/Territorial Nominee (PNP)	Federal Skilled Worker (FSW)	Federal Skilled Trades (FST)	Total
2020-01-08	General	473	1,385	734	1,281	0	3,400
2020-01-22	General	471	1,212	915	1,273	0	3,400
2020-02-05	General	472	1,546	658	1,296	0	3,500
2020-02-19	General	470	1,822	663	2,015	0	4,500
2020-03-04	General	471	1,733	714	1,453	0	3,900
2020-03-18	PNP	720	0	668	0	0	668
2020-03-23	CEC	467	3,232	0	0	0	3,232
2020-04-09	PNP	698	0	606	0	0	606
2020-04-09	CEC	464	3,294	0	0	0	3,294
2020-04-15	PNP	808	0	118	0	0	118
2020-04-16	CEC	455	3,782	0	0	0	3,782
2020-04-29	PNP	692	0	589	0	0	589
2020-04-30	CEC	452	3,311	0	0	0	3,311
2020-05-13	PNP	718	0	529	0	0	529
2020-05-14	CEC	447	3,371	0	0	0	3,371
2020-05-27	PNP	757	0	385	0	0	385
2020-05-28	CEC	440	3,515	0	0	0	3,515
2020-06-10	PNP	743	0	341	0	0	341
2020-06-11	CEC	437	3,559	0	0	0	3,559
2020-06-24	PNP	696	0	392	0	0	392
2020-06-25	CEC	431	3,508	0	0	0	3,508

2020-07-08	General	478	591	422	2,887	0	3,900
2020-07-22	PNP	687	0	557	0	0	557
2020-07-23	CEC	445	3,343	0	0	0	3,343
2020-08-05	General	476	911	582	2,407	0	3,900
2020-08-06	FST	415	0	0	0	250	250
2020-08-19	PNP	771	0	600	0	0	600
2020-08-20	CEC	454	3,300	0	0	0	3,300
2020-09-02	General	475	1,083	453	2,664	0	4,200
2020-09-16	General	472	1,453	441	2,305	1	4,200
2020-09-30	General	471	1,474	539	2,187	0	4,200
2020-10-14	General	471	1,673	486	2,341	0	4,500
2020-11-05	General	478	1,807	1,037	1,656	0	4,500
2020-11-18	General	472	1,951	439	2,610	0	5,000
2020-11-25	General	469	1,676	258	3,066	0	5,000
2020-12-09	General	469	2,089	530	2,381	0	5,000
2020-12-23	General	468	1,580	553	2,867	0	5,000
Total			58,201	14,209	34,689	251	107,350

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

* Round types can be program-specific or general. General rounds refer to rounds where invitations are issued to all four programs managed under Express Entry.

Overall, as displayed in Tables 10 and 11, in 2020, men received more than half of the invitations issued (57%). This aligns with the higher representation of men in the eligible profiles submitted in 2020 (55%; figures from Table 1). The invitation by program pattern was similar for men and women: both genders received invitations under Canadian Experience Class most often and under Federal Skilled Trades Program least often. While the number of men invited to apply to the Provincial Nominee Program held even with 2019, the number of women invited under the same program dropped by 11%. For both women and men, invitations under the Federal Skilled Trades Program dropped by three-quarters from 2019 to 2020. From 2018 to 2020, 28 invitations were issued to candidates of an unspecified gender and nine invitations were issued to a candidate with another gender. Because of these small counts, the data presented below is not broken down by gender categorized as “unspecified” or “another.” The number of invitations issued to candidates with an unspecified or another gender was 6 in 2018, 5 in 2019 and 26 in 2020.

Table 10: Invitations to apply by program – men

Program	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Canadian Experience Class	18,583	35%	18,184	37%	33,763	56%
Provincial/Territorial Nominee	6,931	13%	8,962	18%	8,909	15%
Federal Skilled Worker	26,231	50%	21,153	43%	17,853	29%
Federal Skilled Trades	729	1%	765	2%	195	0%
Total	52,474	100%	49,064	100%	60,720	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 11: Invitations to apply by program – women

Program	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Canadian Experience Class	11,987	32%	12,378	34%	24,416	52%
Provincial/Territorial Nominee	3,871	10%	5,966	16%	5,298	11%
Federal Skilled Worker	21,287	57%	17,652	49%	16,834	36%
Federal Skilled Trades	175	0%	235	1%	56	0%
Total	37,320	100%	36,231	100%	46,604	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

The socio-demographic characteristics of the candidates invited to apply for permanent residence shifted significantly from 2019 to 2020, reflecting the impacts of focusing invitations at in-Canada populations (Tables 12 to 15). From 2019 to 2020, the share of invitations issued to candidates aged 20-29 (the age category associated with the highest number of points under the CRS) increased from just over half to almost two-thirds. Candidates invited to apply for permanent residence in 2020 were marginally less well-educated than in previous years, with fewer masters and entry-to-practice graduates receiving invitations; however, overall candidates who received invitations to apply remained highly educated, with more than 90% claiming post-secondary educational credentials of at least three years. In 2020, more invitations went to candidates with one or two years of eligible Canadian work experience, while fewer candidates with significant foreign work experience were invited to apply.

Table 12: Invitations issued by age, 2018, 2019, and 2020

Age category	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
19-29	46,038	51%	47,165	55%	67,933	63%
30-34	30,281	34%	26,692	31%	25,726	24%
35-39	10,045	11%	8,078	9%	9,158	9%
40-44	2,246	3%	2,260	3%	3,011	3%
45+	1,190	1%	1,101	1%	1,519	1%
Total	89,800	100%	85,300	100%	107,350	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 13: Invitations issued by highest level of education, 2018, 2019, and 2020

Education level	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
High school or less	1,441	2%	1,158	1%	923	1%
One or two year post-secondary credential	4,291	5%	4,395	5%	7,552	7%
Post-secondary credential of three years or longer	37,635	42%	35,780	42%	49,661	46%

Master's Degree or entry-to-practice professional degree	43,008	48%	40,673	48%	45,521	42%
PhD	3,425	4%	3,294	4%	3,693	3%
Total	89,800	100%	85,300	100%	107,350	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 14: Invitations issued by amount of Canadian work experience, 2018, 2019, and 2020

Experience level	2018		2019		2020	
	number	2018%	number	2019%	number	2020%
No work experience or less than one year	53,460	60%	47,733	56%	41,958	39%
1 year	24,964	28%	26,054	31%	43,334	40%
2 years	8,456	9%	8,951	10%	17,883	17%
3 years	1,790	2%	1,618	2%	3,035	3%
4 years	613	1%	504	1%	616	1%
5 years or more	517	1%	440	1%	524	0%
Total	89,800	100%	85,300	100%	107,350	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 15: Invitations issued by amount of foreign work experience, 2018, 2019, and 2020

Experience level	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
	No work experience or less than one year	18,938	21%	17,762	21%	33,751
1 year	7,292	8%	6,101	7%	8,310	8%
2 years	6,909	8%	4,995	6%	5,619	5%
3 years	12,136	14%	15,189	18%	18,605	17%
4 years	9,871	11%	11,016	13%	12,227	11%
5 years or more	34,654	39%	30,237	35%	28,838	27%
Total	89,800	100%	85,300	100%	107,350	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 16 provides information on (a) the number of invitations issued to candidates who were assigned additional points in each category and (b) the number of invitations issued to candidates who met relevant criteria for the category but were not necessarily assigned points.⁹ For example, in 2020, 17,249 invitations were issued to candidates who met criteria for Arranged Employment points, but only 15,453 of these candidates were actually assigned the associated points. Data are provided for both conditions to facilitate comparison, as well as to reflect the fuller characteristics of candidates who received an invitation to apply for permanent residence.¹⁰

In 2020, less than one third of invitations to apply (28%) were issued on the basis of human capital attributes alone (i.e., to candidates who did not meet criteria for any additional points)—this represents a decrease of 12 percentage points since 2019 (as reported in the 2019 Express Entry Year End Report).

Compared to all candidates who submitted eligible profiles in 2020 (refer to Table 3), a smaller proportion of invited candidates met none of the criteria for additional points (28% vs. 63%). More specifically, a higher proportion of invited candidates met criteria for Arranged Employment points (16% vs. 7%), for Education in Canada points (42% vs. 17%), and for French-language proficiency points (7% vs. 5%), compared to all eligible profiles submitted in 2020. A smaller proportion of invited candidates met criteria for Siblings in Canada points (12%), compared to all eligible profiles submitted (13%).

Table 16: Number of invitations issued to those assigned additional points and the number of invitations issued to those that met relevant criteria by type, 2020 (not mutually exclusive)

Additional point type*	Number	%
Assigned additional points		
No Additional Points	30,376	28%
Provincial Nominee	14,209	13%
Arranged Employment	15,453	14%
Education in Canada	41,470	39%
French-language proficiency	6,157	6%
Siblings in Canada	11,105	10%
Met criteria for points		
No Additional Points	30,376	28%
Provincial Nominee	14,209	13%
Arranged Employment	17,249	16%
Education in Canada	45,548	42%
French-language proficiency	7,105	7%
Siblings in Canada	12,827	12%
Total	107,350	

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

* Note that candidates can qualify for multiple additional point types. Therefore, the sum of candidates by additional point type may exceed the total number of candidates issued additional points.

Tables 17 to 20 display the number of invitations issued to men and women who met the criteria to receive each additional point type, regardless of whether candidates were actually assigned those points. In general, the proportion of male versus female invited candidates who met the criteria for each additional point type roughly aligns with the proportion of eligible profiles submitted by men and women (e.g., in 2020, 55% of eligible profiles were submitted by men and 45% by women; see Table 1 for figures). However, in 2020 a considerably higher proportion of the candidates with arranged employment points who received an invitation to apply were men (66%) than women (34%).

Table 17: Invitations to apply by arranged employment

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	6,681	72%	7,633	70%	11,300	66%
Women	2,627	28%	3,272	30%	5,943	34%
Total*	9,308	100%	10,905	100%	17,249	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

Table 18: Invitations to apply by education in Canada

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	13,610	59%	13,878	58%	25,898	57%
Women	9,283	41%	9,973	42%	19,635	43%
Total*	22,897	100%	23,853	100%	45,548	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

Table 19: Invitations to apply by French-language proficiency

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	2,567	56%	2,887	52%	3,529	50%
Women	2,055	44%	2,631	48%	3,575	50%
Total*	4,623	100%	5,518	100%	7,105	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

Table 20: Invitations to apply by siblings in Canada

Gender	2018 number	2018%	2019 number	2019%	2020 number	2020%
Men	5,637	54%	5,259	53%	6,558	51%
Women	4,842	46%	4,739	47%	6,263	49%
Total*	10,479	100%	10,001	100%	12,827	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

Consistent with 2018 and 2019, occupations in information technology, and business and financial services continued to dominate among candidates invited to apply for permanent residence; however, 2020 saw significant growth in occupations such as food service supervisor and administrative assistant—likely resulting from the shift to Canadian Experience Class-specific rounds of invitations following the declaration of the pandemic (Table 21).

Table 21: Most common primary occupations, upon invitation, 2018 - 2020 - total

Primary Occupation	Skill type	2018	Primary Occupation	Skill type	2019	Primary Occupation	Skill type	2020
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	6,126	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	6,529	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	6,665
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	5,429	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	4,645	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	4,846
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	3,450	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	3,819	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	4,661
1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	2,483	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	2,607	6311 Food service supervisors	B	4,228
1241 Administrative assistants	B	2,335	1241 Administrative assistants	B	2,407	1241 Administrative assistants	B	4,041
1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	2,049	1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	1,838	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	2,623
4011 University professors and lecturers	A	1,942	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	1,808	1221 Administrative officers	B	2,366
1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	1,921	1221 Administrative officers	B	1,694	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	2,327
1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	1,915	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	1,684	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	2,128

0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	0	1,775	0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	0	1,588	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	2,119
1221 Administrative officers	B	1,456	1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	1,549	2282 User support technicians	B	2,043
6311 Food service supervisors	B	1,435	6311 Food service supervisors	B	1,544	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	1,823
0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	1,409	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	1,484	2172 Database analysts and data administrators	A	1,767
2132 Mechanical engineers	A	1,274	2132 Mechanical engineers	A	1,416	0621 Retail and wholesale trade managers	0	1,699
1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	1,196	2172 Database analysts and data administrators	A	1,312	1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	1,680
Other		53,605			49,376			62,334
Total		89,800	Total		85,300	Total		107,350

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type 0: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

At the time of invitation, the primary occupations of men and women differed to some extent (Tables 22 to 23). For example, from 2018-2020, the most common occupation among women who received an invitation to apply was Administrative Assistant, which was not among the most common primary occupations for men in 2018 or 2019, and was only tenth-most-common in 2020. In a departure from previous years, 2020 saw equal numbers of higher-skilled occupations among the top 15 most common primary occupations of both men and women invited to apply for permanent residence—however, lower-skilled occupations remained more common for women than for men.

Table 22: Most common primary occupations, upon invitation in 2018 - 2020 - men

Primary occupation	Skill type	2018	Primary occupation	Skill type	2019	Primary occupation	Skill type	2020
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	4,574	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	4,845	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	5,002
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	3,837	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	3,213	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	3,560
2174 Computer programmers and	A	2,579	2174 Computer programmers and	A	2,835	2171 Information	A	3,335

interactive media developers			interactive media developers			systems analysts and consultants		
1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,258	2132 Mechanical engineers	A	1,284	6311 Food service supervisors	B	1,754
1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	1,190	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,277	2282 User support technicians	B	1,350
2132 Mechanical engineers	A	1,167	1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	1,055	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	1,268
1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	1,132	0213 Computer and information systems managers	O	1,002	2132 Mechanical engineers	A	1,227
0213 Computer and information systems managers	O	1,078	1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	911	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,181
4011 University professors and lecturers	A	998	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	898	2172 Database analysts and data administrators	A	1,125
2133 Electrical and electronics engineers	A	925	2172 Database analysts and data administrators	A	878	1241 Administrative assistants	B	1,120
0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	O	901	0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	O	787	1215 Supervisors, supply chain, tracking and scheduling coordination occupations	B	1,091
1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	806	0621 Retail and wholesale trade managers	O	746	0621 Retail and wholesale trade managers	O	1,060
2282 User support technicians	B	779	2282 User support technicians	B	740	0213 Computer and information systems managers	O	1,030
0621 Retail and wholesale trade managers	O	737	2133 Electrical and electronics engineers	A	719	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	999
2131 Civil engineers	A	725	6322 Cooks	B	712	6322 Cooks	B	960
Other		29,788	Other		27,162	Other		34,658
Total		52,474	Total		49,064	Total		60,720

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type O: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

Table 23: Most common primary occupations, upon invitation in 2018 - 2020 - women

Primary occupation	Skill type	2018	Primary occupation	Skill type	2019	Primary occupation	Skill type	2020
1241 Administrative assistants	B	1,734	1241 Administrative assistants	B	1,786	1241 Administrative assistants	B	2,921
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	1,592	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	1,683	6311 Food service supervisors	B	2,473
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	1,552	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	1,431	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	1,661
1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	1,243	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,330	1221 Administrative officers	B	1,535
1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,225	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	1,135	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	1,511
1221 Administrative officers	B	952	1221 Administrative officers	B	1,119	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	1,462
4011 University professors and lecturers	A	944	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	984	1111 Financial auditors and accountants	A	1,442
0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	0	873	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	860	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	1,254
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	871	6311 Food service supervisors	B	837	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	1,101
1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	783	0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	0	801	0124 Advertising, marketing and public relations managers	0	885
1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	731	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	786	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	850
6311 Food service supervisors	B	730	1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	783	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	823
1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	710	1112 Financial and investment analysts	A	638	1122 Professional occupations in business management consulting	A	801

4021 College and other vocational instructors	A	703	4021 College and other vocational instructors	A	571	0631 Restaurant and food service managers	0	800
4214 Early childhood educators and assistants	A	623	0631 Restaurant and food service managers	0	570	6235 Financial sales representatives	B	734
Other	B	22,054	Other		20,917	Other		26,351
Total		37,320	Total		36,231	Total		46,604

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type 0: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

Table 24 displays the most common occupations among candidates who were assigned arranged employment points and were invited to apply in 2020. This sub-population features a larger proportion of candidates in lower-skilled occupations, such as food service supervisors (12%) and cooks (4%), compared to the full population of candidates who received an invitation to apply for permanent residence in 2020.

Table 24: Most common Arranged Employment occupations, upon invitation, 2018-2020 – total

Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2018	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2019	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2020
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	783	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	917	6311 Food service supervisors	B	1,997
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	604	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	870	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	1,601
6322 Cooks	B	594	6311 Food service supervisors	B	838	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	1,377
6311 Food service supervisors	B	525	6322 Cooks	B	692	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	1,032
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	490	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	647	6322 Cooks	B	677
4011 University professors and lecturers	A	430	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	501	1241 Administrative assistants	B	615
5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	A	392	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	364	0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	560
0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	282	0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	336	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	558
0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	264	5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	A	331	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	531
0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	185	1241 Administrative assistants	B	218	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	491
6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	153	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	209	1221 Administrative officers	B	440

1221 Administrative officers	B	136	1221 Administrative officers	B	192	0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	298
3111 Specialist physicians	A	133	0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	180	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	281
8252 Agricultural service contractors, farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers	B	127	0015 Senior managers - trade, broadcasting and other services, n.e.c.	0	157	1215 Supervisors, supply chain, tracking and scheduling co-ordination occupations	B	277
1241 Administrative assistants	B	122	8252 Agricultural service contractors, farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers	B	142	0631 Restaurant and food service managers	0	269
Other		4,088	Other		4,311	Other		6,245
Total		9,308	Total		10,905	Total		17,249

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type 0: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

As displayed in Tables 25 and 26, the most common occupations among both men and women who met the criteria for arranged employment points and received an invitation to apply for permanent residence were similar to those observed for the total population of those who met the same criteria. In addition, the most common occupations among invited women with arranged employment points included more lower-skilled occupations in comparison to their male counterparts.

Table 25: Most common Arranged Employment occupations, upon invitation, 2018-2020 – men

Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2018	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2019	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2020
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	697	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	788	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	1,342
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	515	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	770	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	1,208
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	411	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	547	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	868
6322 Cooks	B	381	6322 Cooks	B	445	6311 Food service supervisors	B	832
5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	294	6311 Food service supervisors	B	346	0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	487

4011 University professors and lecturers	A	288	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	331	6322 Cooks	B	446
6311 Food service supervisors	0	273	0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	294	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	390
0213 Computer and information systems managers	0	242	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	292	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	358
0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	B	220	5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	268	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	341
0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	168	0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	159	0016 Senior managers - construction, transportation, production and utilities	0	249
7271 Carpenters	B	110	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	139	1215 Supervisors, supply chain, tracking and scheduling coordination occupations	B	213
6211 Retail sales supervisors	0	101	0015 Senior managers - trade, broadcasting and other services, n.e.c.	0	120	1241 Administrative assistants	B	208
8252 Agricultural service contractors, farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers	B	91	8252 Agricultural service contractors, farm supervisors and specialized livestock workers	B	101	0015 Senior managers - trade, broadcasting and other services, n.e.c.	0	187
3111 Specialist physicians	B	86	7271 Carpenters	B	97	5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	173
0015 Senior managers - trade, broadcasting and other services, n.e.c.	B	79	1215 Supervisors, supply chain, tracking and scheduling coordination occupations	B	89	1221 Administrative officers	B	147
Other		2,725	Other		2,847	Other		3,851
Total		6,681	Total		7,633	Total		11,300

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type 0: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

Table 26: Most common Arranged Employment occupations, upon invitation, 2018-2020 – women

Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2018	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2019	Arranged employment occupation	Skill type	2020
6311 Food service supervisors	B	252	6311 Food service supervisors	B	492	6311 Food service supervisors	B	1,165
6322 Cooks	B	213	6322 Cooks	B	247	1241 Administrative assistants	B	407
4011 University professors and lecturers	A	142	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	170	1221 Administrative officers	B	293
4214 Early childhood educators and assistants	B	102	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	147	2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	259
5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	98	1241 Administrative assistants	B	139	4214 Early childhood educators and assistants	B	250
1221 Administrative officers	B	91	1221 Administrative officers	B	119	6322 Cooks	B	231
2174 Computer programmers and interactive media developers	A	89	4214 Early childhood educators and assistants	B	100	4011 University professors and lecturers	A	200
2173 Software engineers and designers	A	86	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	100	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	189
1241 Administrative assistants	B	80	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	82	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	178
2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	79	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	72	2173 Software engineers and designers	A	168
1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	60	6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	70	2171 Information systems analysts and consultants	A	164
6211 Retail sales supervisors	B	52	0631 Restaurant and food service managers	0	70	0631 Restaurant and food service managers	0	138
3111 Specialist physicians	A	47	1311 Accounting technicians and bookkeepers	B	70	0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	100
0013 Senior managers - financial, communications and other business services	0	44	5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	63	5241 Graphic designers and illustrators	B	91

2121 Biologists and related scientists	A	41	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	47	1123 Professional occupations in advertising, marketing and public relations	A	83
Other		1,151	Other		1,284	Other		2,027
Total		2,627	Total		3,272	Total		5,943

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Skill Type 0: management jobs

Skill Level A: professional jobs that usually call for a degree from a university

Skill Level B: technical jobs and skilled trades that usually call for a college diploma or training as an apprentice

The five most common countries of residence among candidates who received an invitation to apply remained the same from 2018 to 2020 (Table 27). The proportion of invitations to apply for permanent residence that were issued to candidates who indicated Canada as their country of residence grew from 47% in 2019 to 63% in 2020, reflecting the growth in invitations to apply under the Canadian Experience Class. Over the same period, the proportion of invited candidates who indicated India as their country of residence dropped from 18% to 10%, while the share of invited candidates residing in the United States fell to 7% from 12%.

Table 27: Most common countries of residence among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – total

Country of residence	2018	Country of residence	2019	Country of residence	2020
Canada	39,923	Canada	40,517	Canada	67,570
India	17,647	India	15,107	India	11,259
United States of America	9,972	United States of America	10,004	United States of America	7,266
Nigeria	3,721	Nigeria	3,826	Nigeria	4,095
United Arab Emirates	2,030	United Arab Emirates	1,706	United Arab Emirates	1,412
Pakistan	1,366	Pakistan	1,178	Pakistan	1,309
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	1,186	Morocco	862	Australia	1,081
People's Republic of China	878	Australia	776	Lebanon	998
Australia	834	People's Republic of China	775	People's Republic of China	916
Saudi Arabia	726	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	720	Morocco	850
Other	11,517	Other	9,829	Other	10,594
Total*	89,800	Total*	85,300	Total*	107,350

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

As displayed in Tables 28 and 29, the most common countries of residence were similar for both men and women in 2018, 2019, and 2020. In 2020, smaller proportion of women (59%) than men (66%) indicated Canada as their country of residence.

Table 28: Most common countries of residence among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – men

Country of residence	2018	Country of residence	2019	Country of residence	2020
Canada	24,653	Canada	24,708	Canada	39,973
India	9,372	India	7,793	India	5,792
United States of America	6,555	United States of America	6,472	United States of America	4,564
Nigeria	1,572	Nigeria	1,607	Nigeria	1,556
United Arab Emirates	1,125	United Arab Emirates	899	Pakistan	750
Pakistan	833	Pakistan	667	United Arab Emirates	713
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	660	Morocco	467	Australia	630
Saudi Arabia	509	Australia	457	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	440
Australia	478	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	399	Morocco	427
People's Republic of China	415	People's Republic of China	318	People's Republic of China	411
Other	6,302	Other	5,277	Other	5,464
Total	52,474	Total	49,064	Total	60,720

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 29: Most common countries of residence among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – women

Country of residence	2018	Country of residence	2019	Country of residence	2020
Canada	15,269	Canada	15,808	Canada	27,573
India	8,275	India	7,314	India	5,466
United States of America	3,417	United States of America	3,531	United States of America	2,702
Nigeria	2,149	Nigeria	2,219	Nigeria	2,539

United Arab Emirates	905	United Arab Emirates	805	United Arab Emirates	699
Pakistan	533	Pakistan	511	Lebanon	599
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	526	People's Republic of China	457	Pakistan	559
People's Republic of China	463	Morocco	395	People's Republic of China	505
Australia	356	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	321	Australia	451
Republic of South Africa	299	Australia	319	Federal Republic of Cameroon	445
Other	5,128	Other	4,551	Other	5,066
Total	37,320	Total	36,231	Total	46,604

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

As with country of residence, the five most common countries of citizenship among individuals who received an ITA did not change from 2018, to 2019, to 2020 (Table 30). Over the three-year period from 2018-2020, India was the most common country of citizenship of invited candidates by a significant margin (47%), followed by China (7%) and Nigeria (7%). From 2018 to 2020, the proportion of invited candidates who indicated citizenship outside of the ten most common countries remained stable at 25%.

Table 30: Most common country of citizenship among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – total

Country of citizenship	2018	Country of citizenship	2019	Country of citizenship	2020
India	41,680	India	40,314	India	50,841
People's Republic of China	6,247	Nigeria	5,882	People's Republic of China	8,955
Nigeria	6,024	People's Republic of China	5,679	Nigeria	6,532
Pakistan	3,109	Pakistan	2,513	Pakistan	2,823
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	2,542	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	2,127	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	2,689
Brazil	1,847	Brazil	1,805	Brazil	2,428
United States of America	1,804	United States of America	1,549	Iran	1,923
France	1,371	Iran	1,476	Korea, Republic of	1,653
Iran	1,299	France	1,460	United States of America	1,632
Korea, Republic of	1,254	Korea, Republic of	1,224	Republic of Ireland	1,563
Other	22,623	Other	21,271	Other	26,311
Total*	89,800	Total*	85,300	Total*	107,350

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

*Total includes Another gender, Unknown and Unspecified.

India, China and Nigeria were the most common countries of citizenship for both men and women who received an invitation to apply for permanent residence in 2020; however, a smaller proportion of invited women (41%) than invited men (52%) held Indian citizenship, while a larger proportion of invited women (11%) than invited men (6%) held Chinese citizenship (Tables 31 and 32).

Table 31: Most common country of citizenship among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – men

Country of citizenship	2018	Country of citizenship	2019	Country of citizenship	2020
India	25,955	India	24,910	India	31,793
Nigeria	2,880	Nigeria	2,745	People's Republic of China	3,742
People's Republic of China	2,794	People's Republic of China	2,499	Nigeria	2,813
Pakistan	2,143	Pakistan	1,670	Pakistan	1,900
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	1,568	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	1,297	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	1,632
Brazil	1,119	Brazil	1,053	Brazil	1,414
United States of America	1,083	Iran	889	Iran	1,126
Iran	793	United States of America	883	Republic of Ireland	941
France	783	France	757	United States of America	909
Republic of Ireland	753	Republic of Ireland	695	France	837
Other	12,603	Other	11,666	Other	13,613
Total	52,474	Total	49,064	Total	60,720

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Table 32: Most common country of citizenship among candidates who received an invitation, 2018-2020 – women

Country of citizenship	2018	Country of citizenship	2019	Country of citizenship	2020
India	15,725	India	15,401	India	19,039
People's Republic of China	3,453	People's Republic of China	3,180	People's Republic of China	5,212
Nigeria	3,144	Nigeria	3,137	Nigeria	3,719
United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	974	Pakistan	843	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	1,056

Pakistan	965	United Kingdom and Overseas Territories	830	Brazil	1,013
Brazil	728	Brazil	752	Korea, Republic of	1,012
United States of America	721	France	703	Pakistan	922
Korea, Republic of	687	Korea, Republic of	672	Iran	797
France	588	Philippines	667	Philippines	778
Iran	506	United States of America	666	Lebanon	720
Other	9,829	Other	9,380	Other	12,336
Total	37,320	Total	36,231	Total	46,604

Source: IRCC-EDW (MBR) as of January 12, 2021

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

Who applied for permanent residence through Express Entry?

Excluding accompanying family members, i.e., considering only principal applicants, 76,050 applications for permanent residence were sourced through Express Entry in 2020 (Table 33). Among principal applicants, a slightly higher proportion of men (57%) than women (43%) submitted applications in 2020. The application by program pattern was similar for men and women—both genders applied most often under the Canadian Experience Class and least often under the Federal Skilled Trades Program. A greater number of men than women submitted applications for every economic program; this difference was especially pronounced under the Federal Skilled Trade Program and least pronounced under the Federal Skilled Worker Program. One candidate of unknown gender submitted an application for permanent residence in 2020; this individual is included only in the total counts.

Table 33: Applications by program, principal applicants, 2020

Men	Number	%
Provincial Nominee	8,143	62%
Federal Skilled Worker	10,814	52%
Canadian Experience Class	24,539	58%
Federal Skilled Trades	130	77%
Total	43,626	57%
Women		
Provincial Nominee	4,944	38%
Federal Skilled Worker	10,001	48%
Canadian Experience Class	17,440	42%
Federal Skilled Trades	39	23%
Total	32,424	43%
Grand total		
Provincial Nominee	13,087	100%
Federal Skilled Worker	20,815	100%
Canadian Experience Class	41,979	100%

Federal Skilled Trades	169	100%
Total	76,050	100%

Source: IRCC-EDW (CBR) as of January 21, 2021.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

As displayed in Table 34, nearly two thirds of principal applicants (63%) who submitted an application for permanent residence through Express Entry in 2020 indicated Ontario as the province of destination, which is a slight increase from 2019 when 62% of principal applicants indicated the same. Compared to 2019, the number of principal applicants who intended to reside in Saskatchewan, British Columbia, or New Brunswick increased considerably in 2020, while the number of applicants intending to reside in Alberta and Nova Scotia decreased. The number of applicants who intended to reside in Nunavut remained very small.

Table 34: Applications for permanent residence received through Express Entry, by province of destination, principal applicants, 2019-2020

Province of destination	2019	2020
Alberta	6,423	5,749
British Columbia	13,482	16,069
Manitoba	1,492	1,360
New Brunswick	659	784
Newfoundland and Labrador	123	156
Northwest Territories	1,519	1,568
Nova Scotia	33	25
Nunavut	10	10
Ontario	41,746	47,924
Prince Edward Island	462	426
Saskatchewan	1,275	1,942
Yukon	33	39
Total	67,257	76,052

Source: IRCC-EDW (CBR) as of January 21, 2021.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

How long did it take to process an Express Entry application?

Table 35 displays the time, in months, that IRCC took to process 80% of applications under each program. In 2020, IRCC did not meet the processing standard of finalizing 80% of all applications sourced via Express Entry within six months. 2020's overall processing time was nine months, an increase of one month from the 2019 overall processing time, reflecting the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on IRCC's operations and processing capacity. As an alternative measure of processing times, 51% of applications finalized in the 12-month period ending on December 31, 2020, were completed within the six-month service standard.

Table 35: Processing times* for Express Entry applications finalized by year and immigration category, in months

Immigration Category	2018	2019	2020
Canadian Experience Class (EE)	5	7	8
Federal Skilled Workers (EE)	6	9	12
Provincial/Territorial Nominees (EE)	6	9	11
Skilled Trades (EE)	7	12	16
All Programs	5	8	9

Source: IRCC-EDW (CBR) as of January 21, 2021.

*Processing times refer to the time in which 80% of applications were finalized by IRCC. Note that a minimum of 10 cases are required to calculate processing times.

Who was admitted through Express Entry and where were they going?

In 2020, 63,923 principal applicants and their accompanying family members were admitted into Canada as permanent residents through Express Entry (Table 36). By comparison, 109,601 principal applicants and their accompanying family members were admitted in 2019 and 92,229 were admitted in 2018.

From 2018 to 2020, the individuals admitted under the Federal Skilled Worker Program, as a proportion of all individuals admitted in the calendar year, decreased from 50% to 38%. The proportion of individuals admitted under the Canadian Experience Class Program increased, from 30% to 39%. The proportion of those admitted under the Federal Skilled Trades remained at around 1%. The proportion of people admitted under the Provincial Nominee Program remained relatively stable from 2018 (19%) to 2020 (22%).

Table 36: Admissions (total persons) by program through Express Entry

Program	2018	2019	2020
Provincial Nominee Program	17,963	20,013	14,100
Federal Skilled Worker	45,926	58,184	24,244
Canadian Experience Class	27,466	30,226	25,014
Federal Skilled Trades	874	1,178	565
Total	92,229	109,601	63,923

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change.

As displayed in Tables 37 and 38, the pattern of principal applicant admissions by program was similar for men and women in 2020. In 2020, male and female principal applicants were most often admitted under the Canadian Experience Class and least often admitted under the Federal Skilled Trades Program—a shift from 2019, when both men and women were admitted to Canada as principal applicants most often under the Federal Skilled Worker Program. In 2020, one principal applicant who had another gender was admitted to Canada; this individual is included only in the total counts.

Table 37: Admissions (principal applicant) through Express Entry by program – men

Immigration Class Detail	2018 #	2018 %	2019 #	2019 %	2020 #	2020 %
Provincial Nominee Program	5,600	18%	5,782	16%	4,501	20%
Federal Skilled Worker	13,321	43%	16,406	46%	7,448	33%
Canadian Experience Class	11,936	38%	12,923	36%	10,697	47%
Federal Skilled Trades	323	1%	511	1%	214	1%
Total	31,180	100%	35,622	100%	22,860	100%

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

Table 38: Admissions (principal applicant) through Express Entry by program – women

Immigration Class Detail	2018 #	2018 %	2019 #	2019 %	2020 #	2020 %
Provincial Nominee Program	2,945	14%	3,257	12%	2,738	17%
Federal Skilled Worker	10,366	50%	14,169	54%	6,307	38%
Canadian Experience Class	7,174	35%	8,517	33%	7,389	45%
Federal Skilled Trades	57	0%	132	1%	61	0%
Total	20,542	100%	26,075	100%	16,495	100%

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

As reported in Table 39, India was, by a large margin, the most common country of citizenship among principal applicants and their accompanying family members admitted to Canada through Express Entry in 2018 (43%), 2019 (46%), and 2020 (43%). The proportion of individuals who held Chinese citizenship increased from 6% in 2018 to 7% in 2020. The proportion of individuals admitted through Express Entry who held Nigerian citizenship decreased from 7% in 2018 to 6% in 2020.

Table 39: Admissions (total persons) by most common countries of citizenship

Country of Citizenship	2018 #	2018%	2019 #	2019%	2020 #	2020%
India	39,681	43%	50,848	46%	27,660	43%
China, People's Republic of	5,885	6%	5,753	5%	4,329	7%
Nigeria	6,653	7%	8,428	8%	3,909	6%
United States of America	3,580	4%	3,942	4%	2,348	4%
Pakistan	3,526	4%	4,691	4%	2,299	4%
Brazil	2,214	2%	2,518	2%	1,961	3%
British Citizen	2,609	3%	2,522	2%	1,652	3%

Iran	1,361	1%	1,417	1%	1,129	2%
Korea, Republic of	1,190	1%	1,645	2%	1,043	2%
France	1,326	1%	1,401	1%	1,039	2%
Morocco	451	< 1%	982	< 1%	970	2%
Philippines	1,485	2%	1,331	1%	821	1%
Ireland, Republic of	1,105	1%	1,009	1%	709	1%
Bangladesh	1,301	1%	1,303	1%	646	1%
South Africa, Republic of	1,262	1%	958	< 1%	641	1%
Other	18,600	20%	20,853	19%	12,767	20%
Total	92,229	100%	109,601	100%	63,923	100%

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

Similar to the pattern observed at the application stage, and as in 2018 and in 2019, a majority of persons admitted in 2020 were destined for Ontario (Table 40).

Table 40: Admissions (total persons) through Express Entry

Province/Territory of destination	2018 #	2019 #	2020 #
Newfoundland and Labrador	244	245	159
Prince Edward Island	470	546	445
Nova Scotia	3,255	3,346	1,556
New Brunswick	1,876	1,691	820
Ontario	59,667	69,986	37,524
Manitoba	961	2,521	1,514
Saskatchewan	2,744	3,108	1,247
Alberta	6,906	8,019	7,003
British Columbia	16,028	20,050	13,589
Yukon	40	40	30
Northwest Territories	35	39	30
Nunavut	--	10	6
Total	92,229	109,601	63,923

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

Note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as "--". This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when IRCC data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. Some values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

As expected, the concentration of admitted individuals destined for Ontario was less pronounced among the individuals who were selected through the Provincial Nominee Program (Table 41), as compared to those who were selected through the Federal Skilled Worker Program, the Canadian Experience Class Program, and the Federal Skilled Trades Program (Table 42).

Table 41: Provincial Nominee Program Admissions (total persons) through Express Entry

Province/Territory of destination	2018 #	2019 #	2020 #
Newfoundland and Labrador	44	50	65
Prince Edward Island	384	459	405
Nova Scotia	2,605	2,626	1,219
New Brunswick	1,521	1,330	540
Ontario	7,505	6,118	2,763
Manitoba	74	1,487	868
Saskatchewan	1,733	2,049	801
Alberta	0	646	2,903
British Columbia	4,075	5,210	4,517
Yukon	14	22	12
Northwest Territories	8	16	7
Total	17,963	20,013	14,100

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

Table 42: Federal Skilled Worker Program, Canadian Experience Class and Federal Skilled Trades Program Admissions (total persons) through Express Entry

Province/Territory of destination	2018 #	2019 #	2020 #
Newfoundland and Labrador	200	195	94
Prince Edward Island	86	87	40
Nova Scotia	650	720	337
New Brunswick	355	361	280
Ontario	52,162	63,868	34,761
Manitoba	887	1,034	646
Saskatchewan	1,011	1,059	446
Alberta	6,906	7,373	4,100
British Columbia	11,953	14,840	9,072
Yukon	25	18	18
Northwest Territories	30	23	23
Nunavut	--	10	6
Total	74,266	89,588	49,823

Source: IRCC-CDO (RDM, Permanent Residents) as of December 31, 2020.

Data is operational and as such should be considered preliminary and subject to change

Note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as "--". This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when IRCC data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. Some values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Conclusion

In 2020, the sixth year of its operation, the Express Entry application management system continued to provide a pathway to permanent residence for a range of highly-skilled candidates who demonstrated the potential to successfully integrate and contribute to Canada's economy. To address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, IRCC leveraged the responsiveness and adaptability of the Express Entry system to reduce barriers for clients and to maximize economic immigrant admissions towards the Government of Canada's targets.

Today, in the context of the ongoing pandemic, the Department continues to monitor Express Entry and to explore ways the system could be used to ensure that Canada continues to derive maximum benefit from economic immigration in a rapidly evolving environment.

¹ Gender data is unavailable or unspecified for a small number of individuals; where applicable, these cases are reported under the category of "unspecified." Beginning in 2019, clients had the option of self-reporting a gender other than man or woman; where applicable, these cases are reported under the category of "another." Generally, the number of cases associated with unspecified and another gender are reported for each stage of the Express Entry continuum.

² Candidates invited to apply for permanent residence through the Provincial Nominee Program must meet the eligibility requirements for one of these federal high skilled economic immigration programs.

³ A candidate who indicates they would apply with an accompanying spouse can receive a maximum of 560 points for their own core characteristics and is awarded up to a maximum of 40 points, depending on the human capital characteristics of their spouse.

⁴ For a more detailed breakdown of the Comprehensive Ranking System, see <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/immigrate-canada/express-entry/eligibility/criteria-comprehensive-ranking-system/grid.html>

⁵ Additional points for provincial nominations are excluded from this analysis because they are assigned only after an individual enters the Express Entry pool.

⁶ For the purposes of this report, candidates are considered proficient in French if they have submitted a test result for the Test d'évaluation de français or the Test de connaissance du français and have received a Canadian Learning Benchmark score of seven in all four abilities.

⁷ Note that 2018 and 2019 data in Tables 4 to 7 were revised for technical reasons and differ slightly in comparison to what was reported in last year's report.

⁸ Comparative data for 2019 presented in this section are reported in the Express Entry Year-End Report 2019.

⁹ The number of points assigned for a provincial nomination is 600, which is equal to the maximum number of additional points that a candidate can receive. In effect, because they have already been assigned the maximum number of additional points, a provincial nominee is not assigned any other type of additional points (e.g., for having arranged employment), even though they might have met the relevant criteria.

¹⁰ Counting invitations issued only to those that were assigned points underrepresents the number with the associated attribute (e.g. ability to speak French, a sibling in Canada).