

# Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

## Departmental Overview



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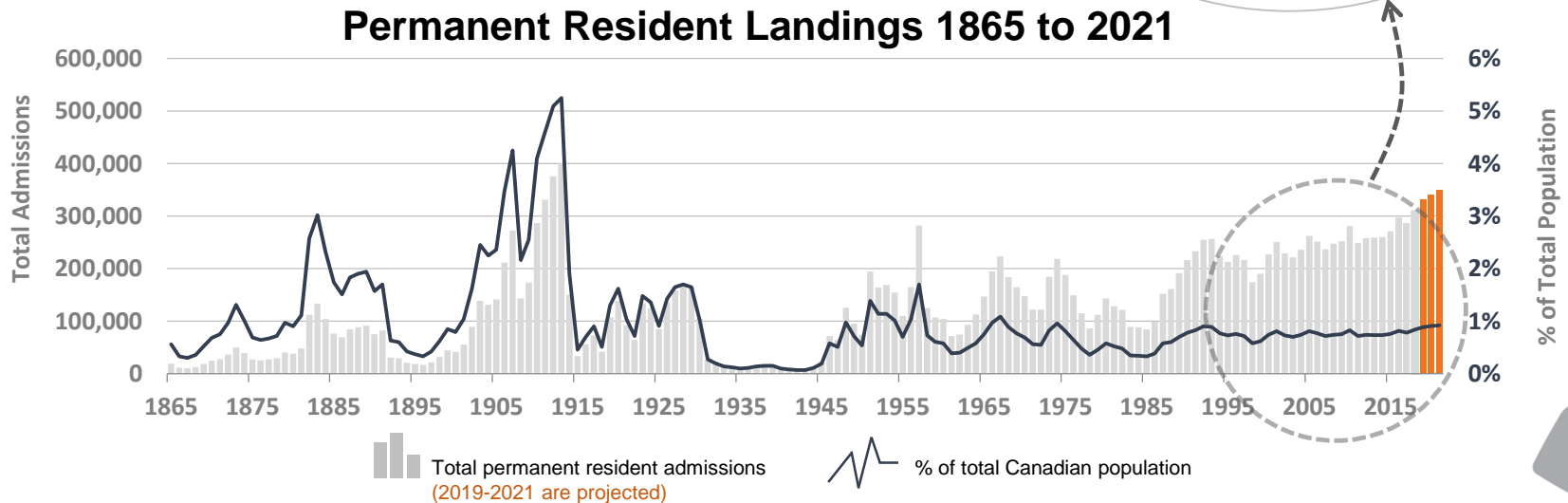
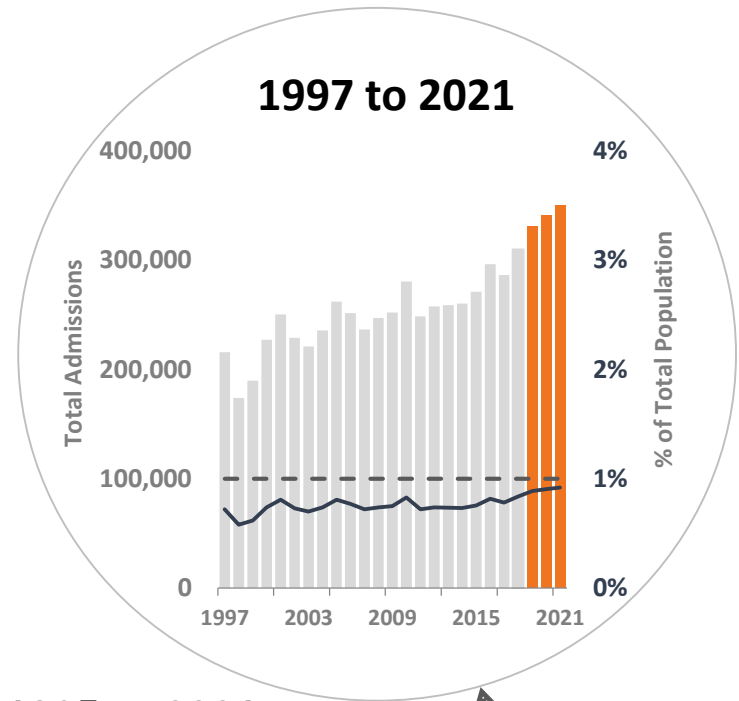
# Introduction to IRCC

## Canada has a managed approach to migration

Canada's approach to migration is intended to maximize Canada's economic and social well-being.

While protecting the safety and security of Canadians, the Department:

- creates legal pathways for people to come to Canada on temporary or permanent basis; and
- plans the number of new immigrants and the balance between permanent resident categories in advance.



# Introduction to IRCC

Immigration is more than facilitating the movement of people

People bring skills, talent, social connections. The work of this Department makes a difference to Canadians by contributing to:



## Economic Development

Managed migration (temporary or permanent) brings in global talent and skills to support and grow the Canadian economy.

## Nation-Building

Immigration enriches Canada's diversity and helps reunite families (spouses, children, parents, grandparents)

## Global Reach

IRCC's network of people and offices is truly global. Canada's approach to immigration is often cited as the benchmark internationally

## National Security

Screening people before they come to Canada to maintain the health, safety and security of Canadians

IRCC is the only federal department that issues trusted identity documents (e.g., permanent resident card)

# Introduction to IRCC

## The Department's work is grounded in strong legal frameworks

### ***Immigration and Refugee Protection Act – (2002)*** ***Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations***

Enable:

- Immigration to Canada
- Refugee protection
- Enforcement

Co-administered with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

The Minister also has discretionary tools from the Act:

- Ministerial Instructions
- Public policy provision

The Act also provides the **Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada** with jurisdiction to hear and decide cases on immigration and refugee matters

### ***Citizenship Act (1947)*** ***Citizenship Regulations***

Enable:

- Acquisition of citizenship
- Resumption of citizenship
- Loss (revocation) of citizenship
- Proof of citizenship
- Renunciation of citizenship

### ***Canadian Passport Order (1981)*** ***Diplomatic and Special Passport Order (1956)***

Enable:

- Issuance of passports
- Cancellation, refusal, and revocation

Co-administered with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

### ***Department of Citizenship and Immigration Act (1994)***

Established the Department – Sets out the powers, duties and functions of the Minister

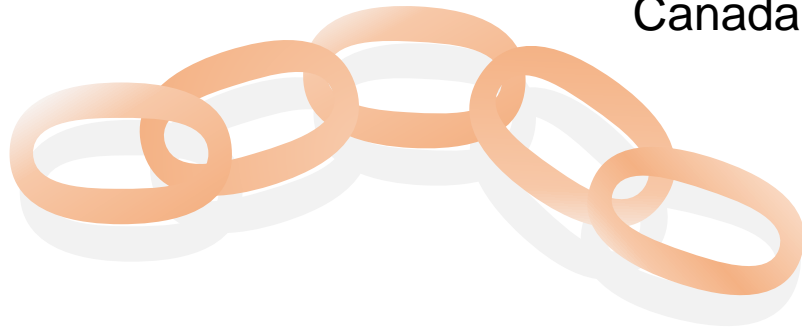
#### **International Law:**

e.g., United Nations Convention Related to the Status of Refugees (1951)

# Introduction to IRCC

Canada's approach to immigration is well-positioned to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow

**Integrated** – Robust systems in place build **links** between...



...who comes to  
Canada and why,

...how to best help new  
immigrants settle and  
become part of the  
Canadian community,

...and how to support their  
journey to Canadian  
citizenship

**Evidence-based** – Strong capacity and attention to gathering and analyzing data, grounding decisions in evidence

**Continuous improvement** – Constantly monitoring, innovating, and adapting the Department's programs and services, especially in light of new information and emerging challenges

# Overview: Two Main Pathways

## How do people come to Canada?

### Temporary residents: visiting, studying or working in Canada for a limited time

- Facilitates the entry of visitors, students and temporary workers for trade, commerce, tourism, international understanding and cultural, educational and scientific activities.



Visitors



International  
Students



Temporary  
Foreign Workers

### Permanent residents: settling in Canada and eligible for citizenship

- Grants many rights and responsibilities, including the right to live, work or study anywhere in Canada; and social benefits including healthcare coverage.
- Permanent residents are also required to pay taxes; and must adhere to and are protected under Canadian law and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
- Over six million new permanent residents have arrived in Canada since 1990.



Economic  
Immigrants



Spouses and  
Family Members



Refugees and  
Protected Persons

# Overview: Two Main Pathways

Temporary residents: Visiting, studying or working in Canada for a limited time

## Visitors

Traveling for business or leisure.

May require either a temporary resident visa or an Electronic Travel Authorization to come to Canada

In 2018, **1,675,924 temporary resident visas** and **3,947,899 Electronic Travel Authorizations** (automated) were issued.

## International Students

Need a study permit before coming to study or train in Canada.

In 2018, **355,587 international student** permits became effective.

## Temporary Foreign Workers

Employer-specific work permit required

Fill temporary skills shortages when Canadians cannot be found and attract talent

In 2018, **84,095** permits became effective through the **Temporary Foreign Worker Program**.

## International Mobility Program

Both employer-specific and open work permits

Support Canada's broader economic and cultural interests.

In 2018, **254,401** permits became effective through the **International Mobility Program**.

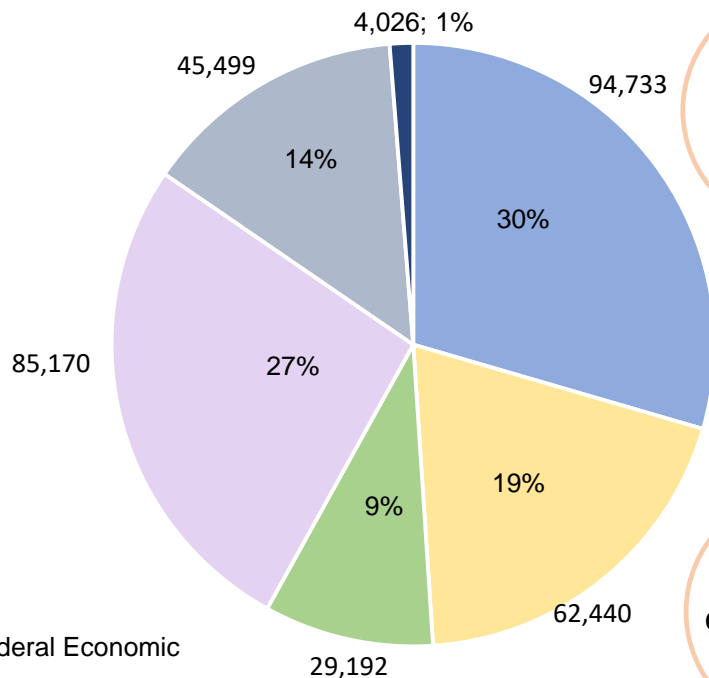
Demand driven – no caps on annual number of temporary residents



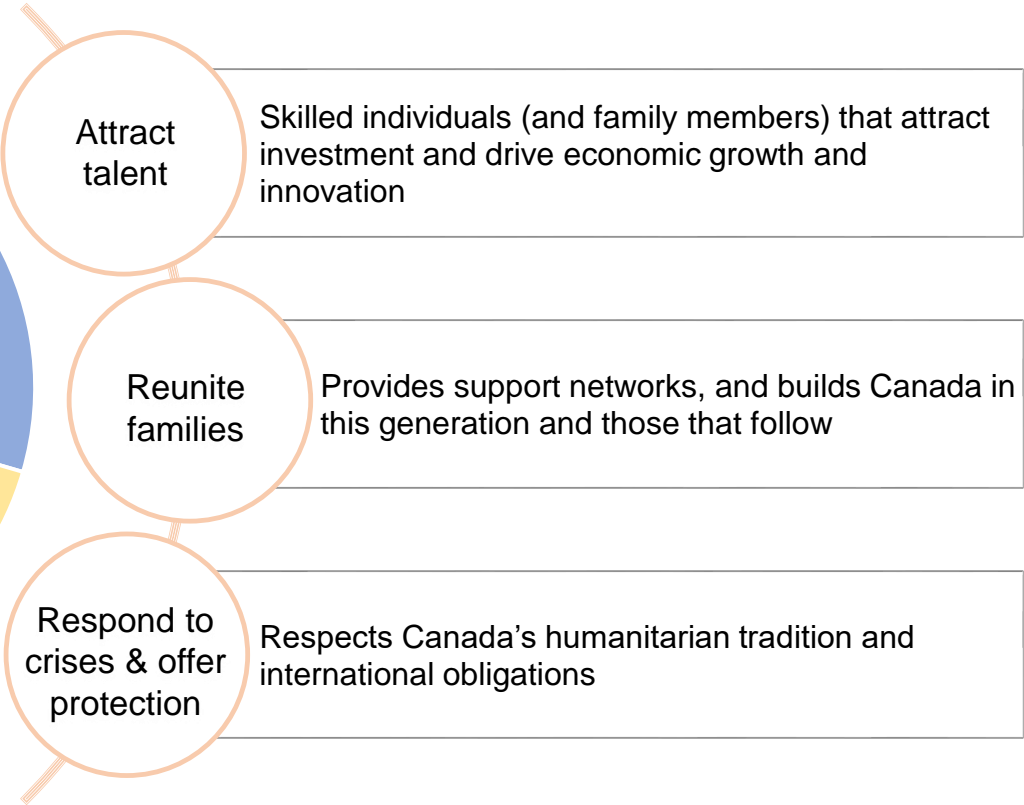
# Overview: Two Main Pathways

## Permanent residents: Balancing economic, social and humanitarian objectives

2018 admissions: 321,060 persons



- Federal Economic
- Provincial Economic
- Quebec Economic
- Family Class
- Protected Persons and Refugees
- Humanitarian & Compassionate & Other



# Overview: Two Main Pathways

## The immigration levels plan

The *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* requires that the **Government's planned number of permanent resident admissions** for the next calendar year be published via tabling in Parliament.

**In the levels plan, the Government sets the targets for admission of permanent residents.** This allows us to communicate on key immigration priorities related to the following:



Economic immigration



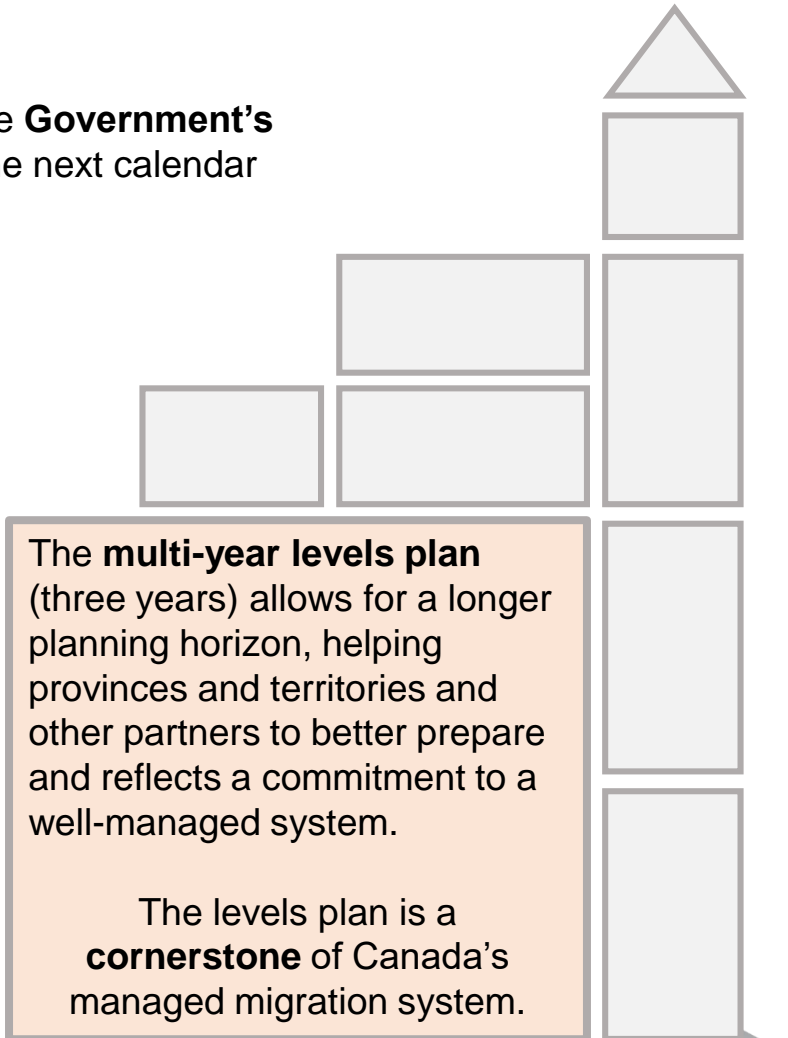
Family reunification



Resettled Refugees and Protected Persons

Levels planning is informed by:

- engagement with provinces, territories, other government departments and agencies, and stakeholders;
- operational realities; and
- research and evidence.



# Overview: Two Main Pathways

## Permanent residence – a closer look

**Economic:** Canada selects economic immigrants (including their immediate family) for their ability to contribute to Canada's economy.

- **Federal high skilled workers**
- **Federal business**
- **Economic pilots**
- **Provincial nominee**
- **Quebec skilled workers and business**

**Family:** Family reunification has been an important pillar of Canada's immigration policy. Citizens and permanent residents are able to sponsor immediate family members.

- **Spouses/partners and children/dependants**
- **Parents and grandparents**

**Refugees and protected persons:** Canada has a strong commitment to its humanitarian goals by resettling refugees and recognizing those persons in need of protection (asylum).

- **Protected persons (asylum)**
- **Resettled refugees**
  - Government-assisted refugees
  - Privately sponsored refugees
  - Blended visa office-referred refugees

**Humanitarian and compassionate grounds:** Permanent residency is granted to those who would not otherwise qualify based on humanitarian and compassionate grounds.

- **Humanitarian and compassionate grounds**

# Health and Safety

## Safeguarding the health, safety and security of Canadians

The protection of **health**, **safety**, and **security** of Canadians is balanced with facilitating the **legitimate movement of people**

### Who and What?

#### Temporary residents

- **Temporary Resident Visa**  
Screening for security and criminality applies to individuals from most countries; medical screening where required by the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*.
- **Electronic Travel Authorization**  
Quick online screening, applies to 54 visa-exempt countries

#### Permanent residents

- Screening for security, criminality and medical

### Where?

**Overseas** – for temporary and permanent residents

**At the border** – Canada Border Services Agency screens all travelers

**In Canada** – those seeking a change in status (e.g., temporary to permanent)

### How?

Information provided by **clients** – e.g., biographic; biometric (fingerprints and photo)

Information held by **trusted partners** – domestic security agencies (e.g., Royal Canadian Mounted Police) and international partners (e.g., United States)

Information in our **systems** – e.g., previous applications

**Verification** of information – e.g., meeting conditions for work or study permits

**Additional screening** as needed

# Health and Safety

## Migration health

The health of immigrants is a concern for all Canadians. The Department:

- manages the **health screening** of migrants to prevent the arrival of infectious diseases, through an international network of physicians and the International Organization for Migration (e.g., pre-departure medical services for resettled refugees);
- **notifies provinces/territories** of the arrival of newcomers requiring medical surveillance (e.g., latent tuberculosis, HIV); and
- **works with the** Public Health Agency of Canada and public health authorities.

The Department also administers the **Interim Federal Health Program**, which provides temporary healthcare coverage to refugees, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable populations until they become eligible for provincial/territorial health coverage.



# Settlement and Integration

## Settlement programming helps newcomers succeed in Canada

Canada funds a **full array of settlement programming** engaging community organizations and **civic society** to deliver services and create welcoming communities.

Programming **builds human and social capital** of immigrants and refugees to help them succeed along their journey.

**Provinces, territories, municipalities, employers and others** provide employment, educational, health and social services, and complementary settlement services.

In 2019-2020, **\$779M of settlement funding** was allocated among provinces and territories through the Settlement Funding Formula (excluding Quebec), and for other settlement funding envelopes



**Pre-arrival services** help immigrants plan and prepare to work and live in Canada



**Needs assessment and orientation** help immigrants make informed settlement decisions.



**Language training** builds a key skill for life and work in Canada.



**Employment-related services** prepare for the workplace and link to employers.



**Community connections** link immigrants to local communities and institutions.



**Indirect and support services** facilitate program participation, foster community planning and partnership

In addition, **resettlement assistance** supports government-assisted refugees, and other eligible clients, when they first arrive in Canada by providing financial support and immediate and essential services.

# For Canadians

## Citizenship – an important privilege

Persons are Canadians by birth in Canada, or naturalized as citizens if eligible after time in Canada as permanent residents.

### Eligibility for Naturalization:

Citizenship applicants must meet requirements set out in the *Citizenship Act*, including: demonstrated knowledge of Canada, language ability, residence requirement, filing income tax returns as required, and not being subject to prohibitions (e.g., criminality).

### Acquisition:

Citizenship may be acquired through birth on soil, by descent, or by naturalization (the formal process by which a person can become a Canadian citizen).

In 2018-2019, via naturalization alone, 207,893 persons became new Canadian citizens.

### Loss:

Canadian citizens may renounce their citizenship.

Citizenship may be revoked from naturalized Canadians if obtained as a result of fraud, false representation, or knowingly concealing material circumstances.

### Awareness:

Encourage naturalization, increase knowledge of the rights, responsibilities and privileges of Canadian citizenship and promote citizenship competencies to all Canadians.

# For Canadians

## Passport – a trusted travel document

### Issuance:

Facilitates Canadians' travel and contributes to international and domestic security. In 2018-2019, IRCC issued approximately three million passports.

### Service Delivery

Collaboration with Service Canada (in Canada) and Global Affairs Canada (abroad) for the delivery of routine citizenship and passport services.

### IRCC also handles:

- special and diplomatic passports;
- travel documents to non-Canadians (e.g., refugee travel document); and
- complex passport applications (e.g., complex custody situations).

### Security:

Maintain Canadian passport security and integrity through the authentication of identity and entitlement.

Have the authority and the means to cancel, refuse, revoke, and impose a period of refusal of passport services (e.g., in cases of detected fraud, misuse, or misrepresentation).

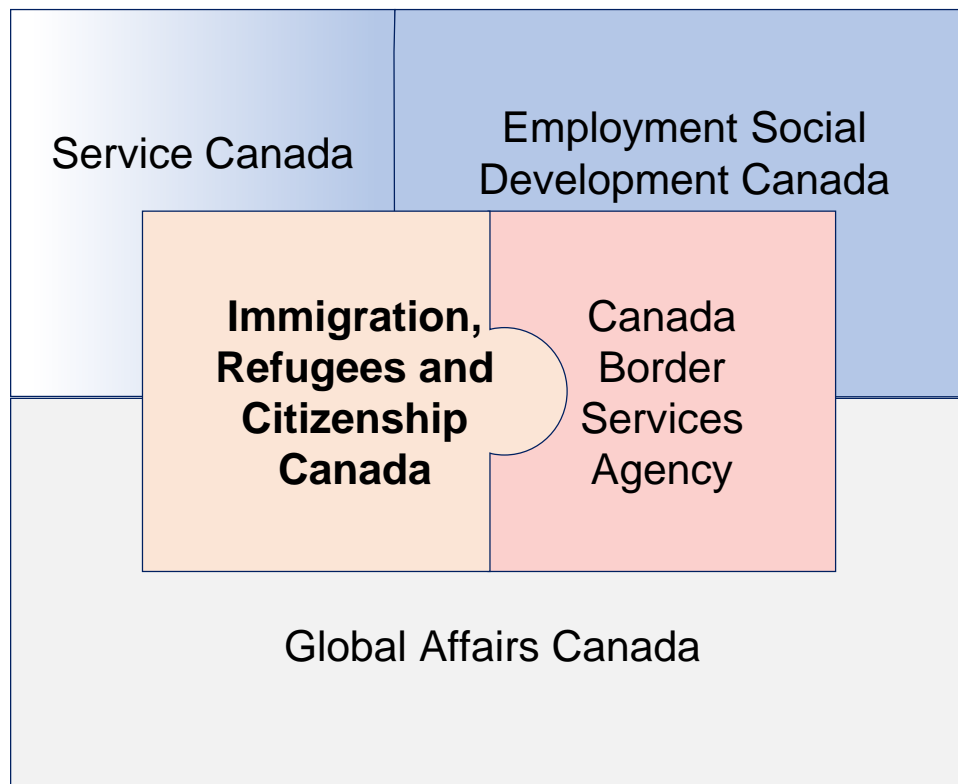
The Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship has sole authority for decisions on passport cancellation, refusal, and revocation, except for cases related to terrorism and national security which fall under the authority of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.





# Key Partners

Federal partners help us carry out the Department's work



**Other federal partners to note:** Public Health Agency of Canada; Public Safety Canada; Canadian Heritage; Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Canadian Security and Intelligence Service; regional economic development agencies.

# Key Partners

Provinces and territories are key partners to ensure success

IRCC's relationship with provinces and territories is critical:

- Immigration is a **shared** federal, provincial, and territorial responsibility with federal paramountcy.
- Provinces and territories leverage immigration to meet their economic needs, and provide social services to newcomers in their jurisdictions.



Quebec and Canada have a distinct relationship on immigration. Under the 1991 *Canada-Quebec Accord*, Quebec has sole responsibility for the following:

- Selection of immigrants (except Family Class and in-Canada refugee claimants)
- Delivery of integration services, supported by an annual grant from the federal government, based on formula set out in the Accord

Quebec publishes its own immigration levels plan annually.

# Key Partners

## International relationships are also key to immigration

Canada engages globally to:

- Deter irregular migration and promote the benefits of safe, orderly and regular migration;
- exchange best practices on managing migration;
- build capacity internationally; and,
- support the health, safety and security of Canadians.

Canada engages in numerous partnerships to advance the above objectives, including the following key relationships:



### Bilateral

United States; Mexico; European Commission; other like-minded countries (e.g., Australia)



### Multilateral

Migration Five (Canada, United States, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand); International Organization for Migration; United Nations Refugee Agency



### International Organizations

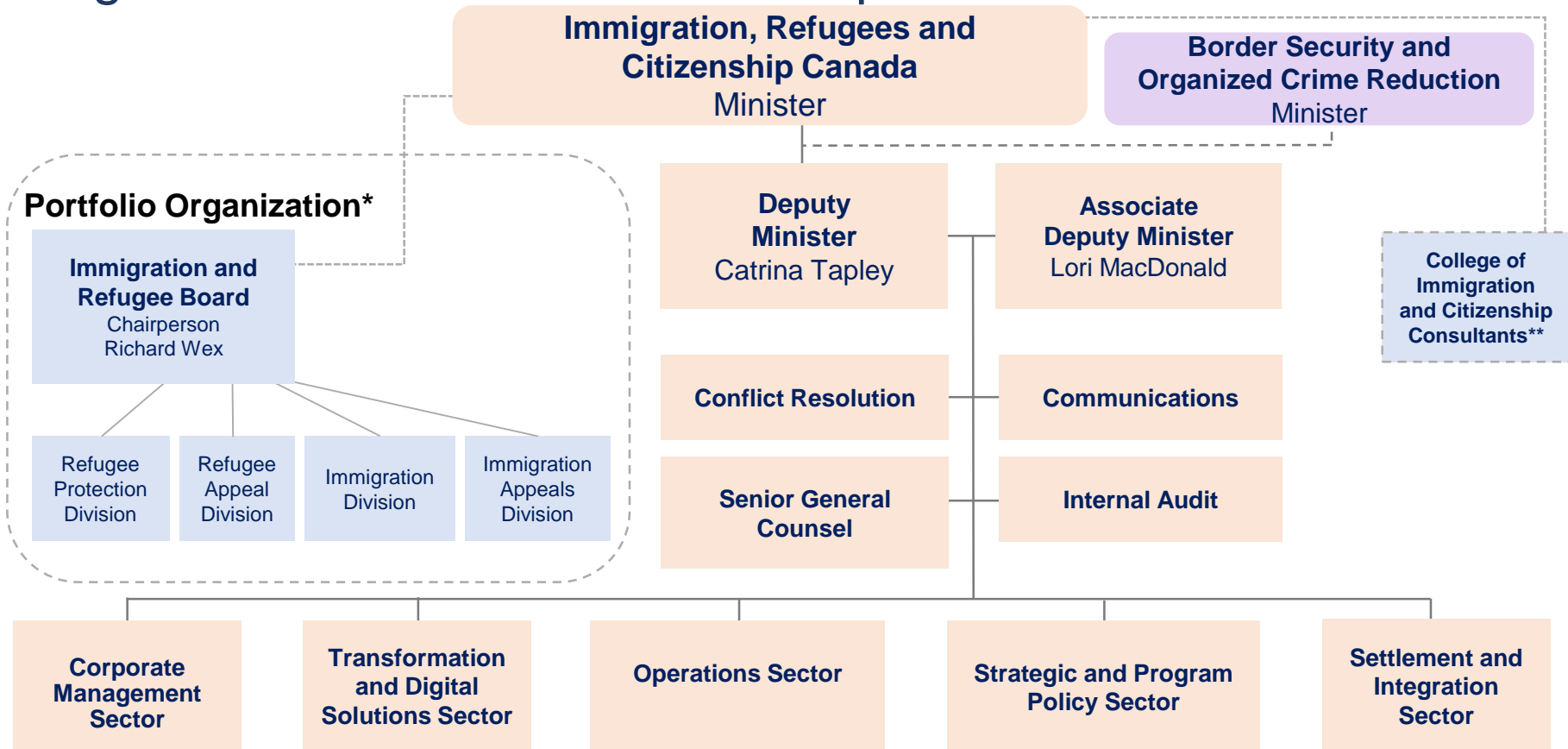
International Organization for Migration; the United Nations Refugee Agency



Canada's approach to immigration is frequently referred to as a best practice in global migration

# Delivering our Services

## Organizational structure of the Department



\*The **Immigration and Refugee Board** is an independent administrative tribunal; accountable to Parliament through the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

\*\***The College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants Act** (which received Royal Assent as part of Bill C-97 in spring 2019) is intended to be brought fully into force by Order in Council. The Board of Directors will be accountable to Parliament through the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. Implementation of the College is anticipated for fall 2020.

# Delivering our Services

## IRCC's operational network: in-Canada

IRCC operates a **vast network** of offices and support centres in Canada that deal with decision-making on application cases, passport issuance, client inquiries, and settlement supports, including citizenship tests and ceremonies.

### Domestic and Settlement Offices

23 client-facing offices across all provinces

### Case Processing Centres

Sydney, Ottawa, Mississauga, and Edmonton

### Client Support Centre (National Call Centre)

Montréal

### Operations Support Centre

24/7, Gatineau

### Resettlement Operations Centre

Ottawa

### Passport

(delivered by Service Canada)

32 dedicated passport offices, 314 Service Canada centres, and two mail processing centres

In total, IRCC has 44 offices across Canada; this includes those listed above as well as those that support the corporate work of the Department (e.g., National Headquarters in Ottawa/Gatineau).

# Delivering our Services

## In-Canada immigration and citizenship offices



**LEGEND**

- Domestic and Settlement Offices
- ▲ Case Processing Centre
- Client Support Centre (National Call Centre)
- ▲ Operations Support Centre
- ▼ Resettlement Operations Centre
- Number of Passport Service Locations

Last update: October 2019

# Delivering our Services

## IRCC's Operational Network – Overseas

IRCC's international network is global; it is critical to delivering permanent resident levels, temporary resident entries, and passports to Canadians.

### **Missions Abroad - Embassies and Consulates**

212 locations abroad in  
148 countries

Full passport services are offered in  
122 locations, and partial services are  
offered in 90 locations

### **Visa Application Centres (Third Party Contractors)**

160 visa application centres  
located in 108 countries

These centres securely send  
applications and passports to the visa  
office; are official locations to submit  
biometrics (fingerprints and a photo);  
are located around the world; speak  
local languages

# Delivering our Services

## IRCC's International Network

- HEADQUARTERS DIVISIONS**
- Geographic Operations (RIO)
  - International Support (RIS)
  - Strategic Planning & Delivery (RIC)
  - Workforce Management (RIR)
  - Resettlement Operations (ROD)

**UNITED STATES**

Area Office: Washington DC  
Responsible for: 4 overseas offices

**LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN**

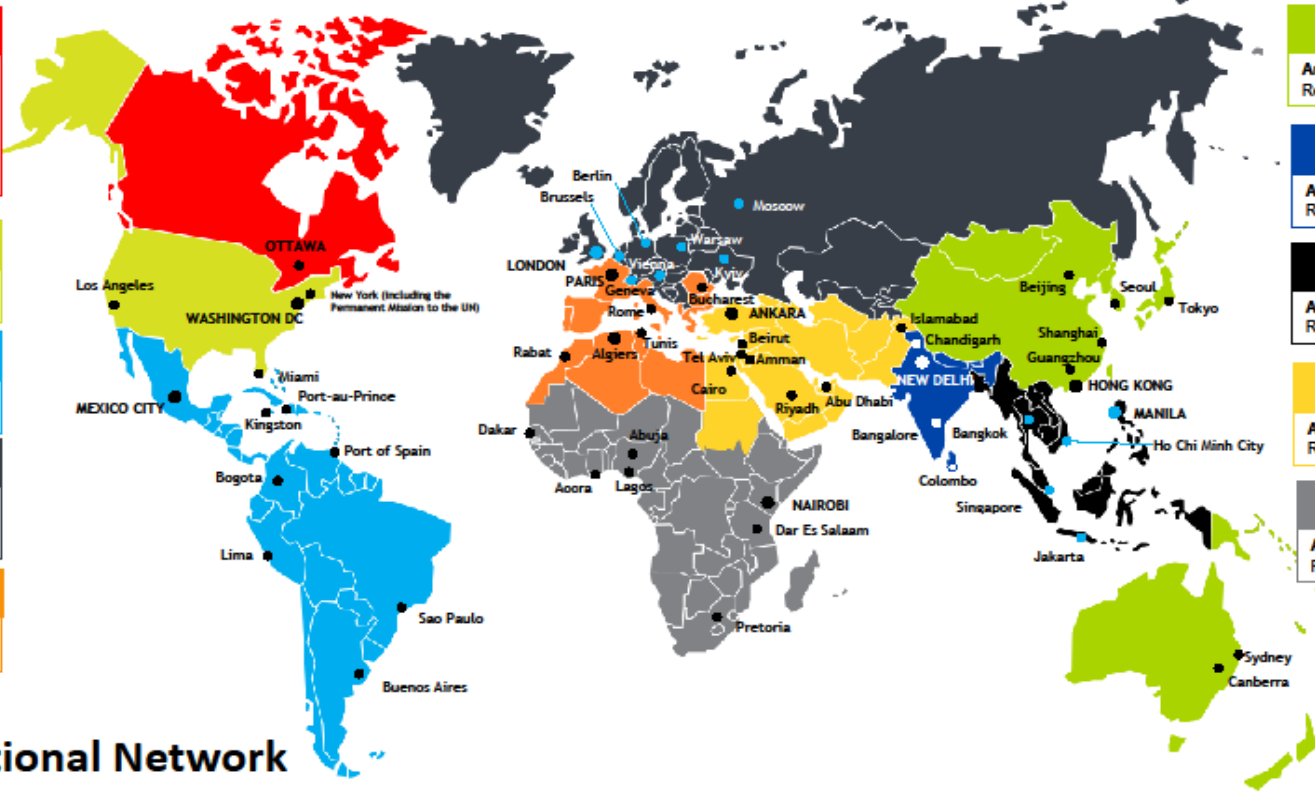
Area Office: Mexico City  
Responsible for: 8 overseas offices

**NORTHERN EUROPE**

Area Office: London  
Responsible for: 9 overseas offices (Including P.M. to the UN in NYC)

**SOUTHERN EUROPE & THE MAGHREB**

Area Office: Paris  
Responsible for: 6 overseas offices



## IRCC International Network

**73%**

of 2018 IRCC Final Decisions for temporary resident caseload

**43%**

of 2018 IRCC Final Decisions for permanent resident caseload

**60**

Overseas Offices

**9**

Area Offices

**1,696**

Promotion and Migration diplomacy activities worldwide

**160**

Visa Application Centres (VACs) in 108 countries

**1,197**

Locally Engaged Staff

**~342**

Canada-Based Officers

**260**

HQ staff

Note: not to scale; for illustration only; Updated on November 13, 2019.