

# CITIZENSHIP

Strategic and Program Policy Sector  
Citizenship Branch

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# Citizenship Program

## Acquisition

- Citizenship may be acquired through:
  - naturalization
  - birth on soil, or
  - descent

## Eligibility

- Applicants must meet certain criteria:
  - Knowledge of Canada
  - Language ability
  - Physical presence
  - Filing income tax returns
  - Absence of prohibitions

## Awareness

- Enhance understanding of citizenship
- Increase sense of belonging in Canada
- Promote active and engaged citizenship

## Loss

- Renouncing citizenship
- Recalling citizenship certificates
- Revoking citizenship in cases of fraud

*Who is Canadian?*



## Naturalization

~110k – 253k /year

By application

## Birth on soil

~385k /year

Automatic

## By Descent

~55k /year

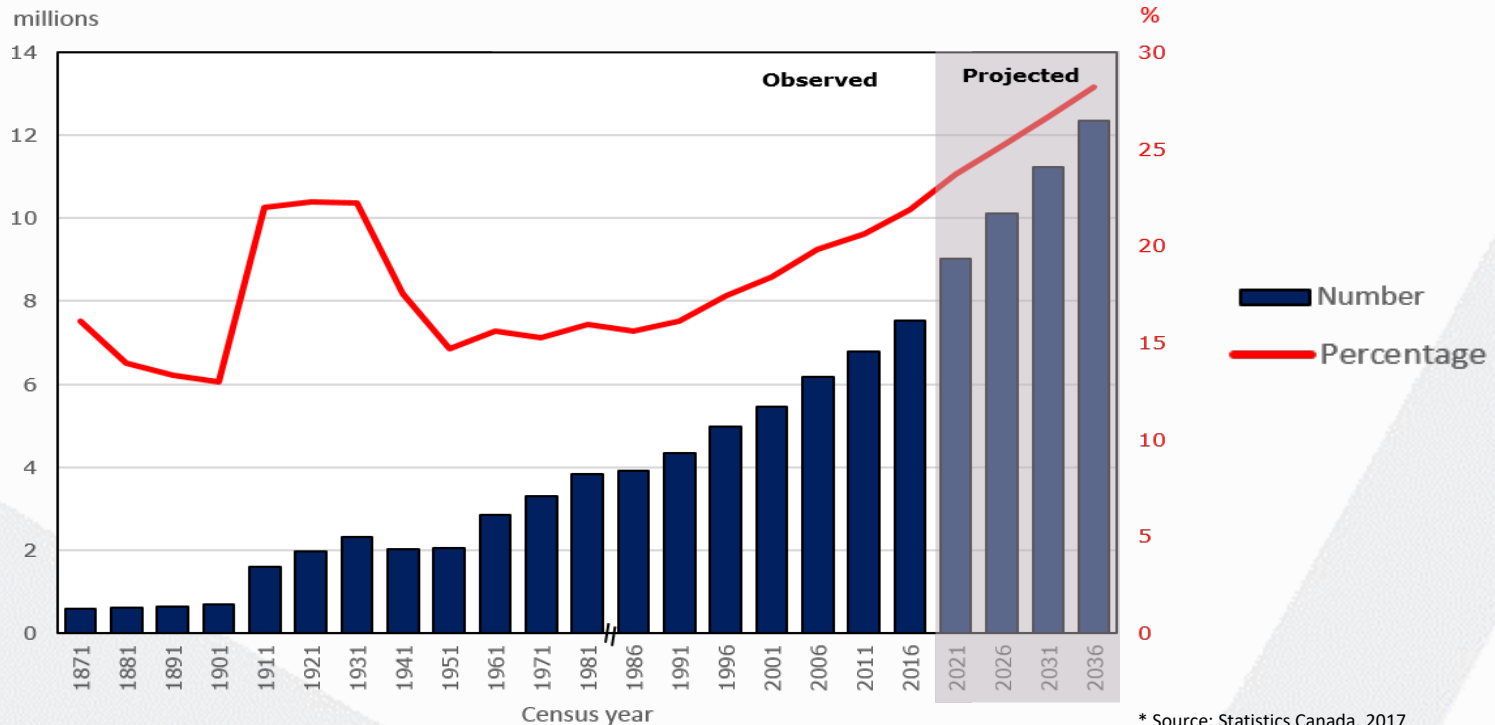
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# Outcomes & Performance: Naturalization Rate Steady

- The ultimate goal of Citizenship Program is to ensure that eligible permanent residents (PRs) become Canadian Citizens.
- The 2011 National Household Survey (85.6%) and 2016 Census (85.8%) reveal that the **naturalization rate remains steady**.
- Nearly 475,000 individuals naturalized in Canada over the past three fiscal years.

Foreign-born population in Canada,  
1871 to 2036 \*



\* Source: Statistics Canada, 2017

# Diverse engagement and fostering reconciliation

- ✓ **The Citizenship Guide, Test, and Study Tools** → to include more Indigenous perspectives and history, and to better showcase Canada's diversity and the social evolution of our rights
- ✓ **The Oath of Citizenship** → to establish a commitment between citizens and Indigenous peoples
- ✓ **Pathways to citizenship** → to better understand the barriers that may prevent people from becoming Canadian



*“Opportunity to increase the presence of Indigenous peoples and perspectives in Citizenship policy and programming to better cultivate awareness and respect.”*



## Key partnerships



To create citizenship study tools and promotional materials, reaching as many as 7,000 schools across the country.

To promote active citizenship, including rights and responsibilities, for newcomers and adult learners in classrooms across the country.



To promote the value of citizenship through various activities, including *enhanced* ceremonies.

Thank you

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