



Alberta Immigration Progress Report 2011

Government
of Alberta

Alberta

Freedom To Create. Spirit To Achieve.

Alberta Immigration Progress Report

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Current Context

With an aging population and a generation of baby boomers set to retire, the Government of Alberta's (GoA) long-term outlook for Alberta indicates immigrants will be needed to ensure the province has a permanent workforce to support a growing economy.

Although Alberta remains committed to the hiring of Albertans and Canadians first, the attraction and retention of immigrants represents an important element in the GoA approach to address current and anticipated labour shortages. Other approaches include increasing the skill and knowledge levels of Albertans and facilitating the mobility of labour within Canada.

In the next ten years, the province may face a potential shortfall of more than 77,000 workers, which means attracting and retaining immigrants will be key to Alberta's continued prosperity. Immigration is also a key contributor to the GoA cross-ministry priority, *Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce* - Alberta's labour force development strategy that states Alberta needs more skilled workers, more people with formal education and training, and more innovative and safe work places.

Trends show annual immigration to Alberta is steadily increasing: from welcoming 20,716 immigrants in 2006 to welcoming 32,640 in 2010.

Temporary foreign workers (TFWs) have become an important part of Alberta's workforce. The flow, or number of new TFWs entering Alberta was 18,509 in 2006 with substantial increases in 2007 and 2008 at 29,366 and 39,088 respectively. In 2009, due to Alberta's changing economy, the numbers of TFWs entering the province decreased to 28,610 and in 2010 to 24,018.

Alberta's Immigration Policy

In October 2005, the Alberta government announced Supporting Immigrants and Immigration to Alberta (SIIA), an immigration policy for the province. The policy outlines a strategic framework for a more co-ordinated approach across ministries to address the needs of Alberta's immigrant population.

Alberta's approach to immigration addresses the attraction and retention of immigrants. The GoA recognizes progress in both areas is essential to realize the vision for immigration outlined in SIIA:

In meeting the goals of SIIA, activities are being pursued across four strategic directions:

1. Welcoming communities
2. Attracting immigrants to Alberta
3. Living in Alberta
4. Working in Alberta

This report highlights key achievements and progress under the four strategic directions from the time of SIIA's implementation in October 2005 to December 2010. The report also highlights recent achievements and progress on TFW matters.

The government has improved and strengthened Alberta's immigration approach through:

- Improvements to the Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program
- An immigration agreement with the federal government including a TFW Annex
- Increased funding for settlement services
- Improved recruitment and attraction initiatives

As this report notes, Alberta expanded its nominee program and continues to make improvements.

The province signed an immigration agreement with the federal government and negotiated an Annex to the agreement that will help shape our relationship with the federal government on TFW matters. Alberta negotiated an increase in federal funding for settlement services and continues to pursue innovations in provincial settlement activities. Alberta's Foreign Qualification Recognition (FQR) Plan was released to enhance foreign qualification assessment and recognition awareness and processes. Finally, the GoA continues to promote Alberta in key international labour supply markets to draw immigrants and TFWs to the province.

Going forward, opportunities exist to further ensure Alberta's ability to welcome and attract immigrants and temporary foreign workers while supporting them as they live, work and thrive in this province.

It is important to note that although this report highlights recent achievements and progress, it is a small sample of the programs and services offered by the GoA that directly or indirectly impact immigrants. In addition, many government programs and services are accessed by immigrants and Albertans alike.

“Immigrants and their families choose to live in Alberta, where they are able to fully participate in community life and are valued for their cultural, economic and social contributions.”



Did You Know...

32,640 immigrants landed in Alberta in 2010, an increase of approximately 58% from 2006 when Alberta received 20,716 immigrants.

Alberta received 11.6 % of all immigrants to Canada in 2010, up from 8.2% in 2006.

Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Welcoming Communities

Objective: Ensure immigrants have opportunities to participate fully in the social, cultural and economic life of the province, without discrimination.

Achieved

- ✓ To date, 10 Alberta municipalities have joined or resolved to join the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (CMARD). Alberta worked with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO to develop and launch CMARD in the province. *Culture and Community Spirit*
- ✓ The Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund provided support for educational initiatives that helped foster equality and fairness and encouraged the inclusion of all Albertans. One of these initiatives was supporting immigrant integration and participation; another was funding municipalities in their efforts to build welcoming and inclusive communities. *Culture and Community Spirit*
- ✓ A multi-year partnership between Alberta Municipalities Association (AUMA), the Alberta Human Rights Commission and Culture and Community Spirit was established to support municipalities in increasing their capacity to build welcoming and inclusive communities. *Culture and Community Spirit*
- ✓ A micro site for Welcoming and Inclusive Communities, hosted on the AUMA website, was launched. <http://wic.auma.ca/> *Culture and Community Spirit*
- ✓ The Alberta Human Rights and Citizenship Commission redesigned its website to improve access to information on legislation and educational resources to prevent discrimination and create more inclusive communities and workplaces. The Commission also published a ‘newspaper’ on human rights for adult readers with basic English literacy skills, the first of its kind in Canada, and produced a public education tool on racial profiling. *Culture and Community Spirit*

In Progress

- An evaluation of the Integrated Service Program, in collaboration with Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), to determine whether settlement and integration delivery methods and support activities remain relevant given the changing needs of newcomers. *Employment and Immigration*
- Through *A Toolbox of Ideas for Small Centres*, produced by the National Working Group on Small Centres Strategies, the GoA is working with communities to support engagement and integration activities that help communities plan for immigration as well as welcome, integrate and retain newcomers. The tool box has information on approaches for ensuring a welcoming community including community development activities, strategies for building supports and reducing barriers and activities related to attracting immigrants. *Employment and Immigration*
- Funding has been provided to 11 Regional Economic Development Alliances to include immigration specific website content to help attract and inform newcomer audiences. *Employment and Immigration*



What it means:

Support communities as they work towards achieving their goals for welcoming and being inclusive of immigrants and their families.



Did You Know...

72% of employers surveyed, who have been involved with the AINP in the past five years, assisted nominees with settlement activities.

Source: Employment and Immigration - AINP Survey 2010

Attracting Immigrants to Alberta

Objective: Increase the proportion of Canadian immigrants landing in Alberta to 10% of Canadian landings. Develop a strategy to facilitate permanent residency for international students who complete studies in Alberta and want to remain permanently in the province.

Achieved

- √ Alberta signed the Canada-Alberta Agreement for Cooperation on Immigration in May 2007. Under this agreement, Alberta has greater control over immigration to the province through the selection and retention of newcomers to fill gaps in the labour market. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ As part of the Alberta Rural Physician Action Plan, Alberta worked with the College of Physicians and Surgeons to participate in the British Medical Journal Career Fair in the U.K. for the past four years. In total, 50 rural physicians have arrived from the U.K. since 2007. *Employment and Immigration/Alberta Health and Wellness*
- √ The government undertook several reconnaissance missions and trade and immigration shows in 2007 and continues to promote Alberta in key international markets. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Alberta's award winning website (Davey Award 2008 – Silver), www.albertacanada.com/immigration, contains information about Alberta and immigrating, living and working in the province. It also includes important information for employers. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Alberta's Immigrant Nominee Program (AINP) speeds up the permanent immigration process for foreign workers who have a guaranteed offer of a permanent, full-time job. Program nominations have increased substantially in the past five years with 5,012 issued in the 2010 calendar year. Nomination targets for 2011 and 2012 are 5,000 respectively. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Responding to the economic needs of the province, the AINP expanded its list of eligible occupations to include semi-skilled occupations in selected sectors. In addition, an International Graduate category was introduced. The Family Stream was added to allow eligible Albertans to nominate skilled relatives abroad. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Since its implementation in 2007, the Immigrate to Alberta Information Service has responded to over 112,000 phone calls from new immigrants, TFWs and Alberta employers on a variety of immigration related issues. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ An interactive online map allows users to explore Alberta municipalities, events, seasons and services through video, animation, images and texts is available on Alberta's immigration website. *Employment and Immigration*

In Progress

- Development of a Trades Best Practice Tool Kit as part of the Trades International Workforce Action Strategy to assist employers in hiring internationally trained trades people. *Employment and Immigration*
- An Immigration Information Tool Kit that will allow subscribers to receive timely immigration information about programs and services. *Employment and Immigration*



What it means:

Increase the number of immigrants choosing to live in Alberta.



Did You Know...

In the 2009/2010 fiscal year, 6,234 adult immigrants received an International Qualification Assessment Service (IQAS) certificate comparing their educational qualifications from another country to those in Canada. This is a 43% increase in assessments in five years.

Source: IQAS

Living in Alberta

Objective: Ensure immigrants receive the community supports necessary to successfully settle in and adapt to Alberta society. Increase the retention rate – the percentage of immigrants who remain in Alberta after initially landing here – to 85%.

Achieved

- √ The GoA continues to co-fund 19 settlement services agencies and two Language Assessment, Referral and Counseling Centres with Citizenship and Immigration Canada. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Settlement services for immigrants expanded with increased funding to help address higher levels of immigration and develop new services for immigrants. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ An English Express website has been developed and can be viewed at <http://advancededucation.gov.ab.ca/englishexpress/about/>. English Express assists adults in improving their English reading skills through a series of articles and stories. *Advanced Education and Technology*
- √ Innovative English language training projects were piloted to support the development and implementation of new models, resources, programs, research and professional development. For example, funding was provided to NorQuest College for the development of Common Ground: English in the Workplace. This initiative enables business owners and human resource facilitators to teach English to employees in rural and urban work settings. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ An Adult English as a Second Language (ESL)/ English as an Additional Language (EAL) Continuum has been developed and implemented. The Continuum supports a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to adult English language programs in the province. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ New funding was made available to support ESL for children as young as 3½ years with an intent to collaborate with community providers to support youngsters and their families. *Alberta Education*
- √ Welcome to Alberta, a publication for adult immigrants providing general information about settling in Alberta is available in a number of languages. <http://www.aaisa.ca/alberta.php> *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Funding to support mental health services to immigrants and refugees who have suffered torture and trauma was provided. *Alberta Health and Wellness*

In Progress

- A strategic framework is in the works that will guide the development of ESL/EAL e-learning delivery. *Employment and Immigration*
- There are 40 Language Training and Enhanced Language Training projects underway in Alberta to test new concepts and ideas related to English language training. *Employment and Immigration*
- A Newcomer Services Interactive Tool is being developed to help newcomers discover bridging and newcomer programs in their communities. *Employment and Immigration*
- Funding is in place to support four research studies related to the development of English language in immigrant children. *Children and Youth Services*
- Funding has been provided to build community capacity for mental health promotion and early intervention to support immigrant and refugee youth. *Alberta Health and Wellness*



What it means:

Expand the programs and services integrating immigrants and their families into daily life, allowing them to successfully live, work and learn in Alberta.



Did You Know...

83% of provincial nominees surveyed did not encounter difficulties getting settled in Alberta

Source: Employment and Immigration - AINP Survey 2010

Working in Alberta

Objective: Improve processes to recognize and use immigrants' qualifications and skills gained outside Alberta. In addition, help employers benefit from immigration as one way to address skills shortages.

Achieved

- √ A Foreign Qualification Recognition Plan (FQR) for Alberta was announced in November 2008. Implementation highlights included the posting of online facts sheets for 31 regulated occupations and compulsory trades, funding to professional regulatory organizations to increase their capacity to assess and recognize foreign qualifications, and improved their FQR data collection. See www.albertacanada.com/immigration/working/occupations.aspx. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Working in Alberta is an online tool that helps newcomers find the jobs they are trained to do and helps Alberta employers find the labour they need manage their businesses. www.employment.alberta.ca/immigration. *Employment and Immigration/ Human Resources and Skills Development Canada*
- √ International Education Guides are completed for the Philippines, China, U.K., Russia, India, South Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan and Columbia. The guides provide comprehensive profiles of the educational systems in other countries and show how they compare to educational standards in Canada. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ In 2009/2010, the International Qualifications Assessment Services (IQAS) issued 6,234 assessment certificates to immigrants. Since 2005/2006, 25,559 assessments have been completed. IQAS issues certificates to immigrants in Alberta to indicate how foreign education compares to Canadian educational standards for entry into the labour market. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Health Career Centres opened in both Edmonton and Calgary to help internationally educated health professionals prepare for licensing and accreditation exams and bridge to language-training programs where necessary. Services are free for clients and include advice and support about registration and licensing processes, employment and career coaching and study groups. *Employment and Immigration*

- √ Edmonton Region Immigrant Employment Council and Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Councils are industry-led, not-for-profit organizations dedicated to ensuring immigrants are welcomed and participate in the economy to their full potential. *Employment and Immigration*

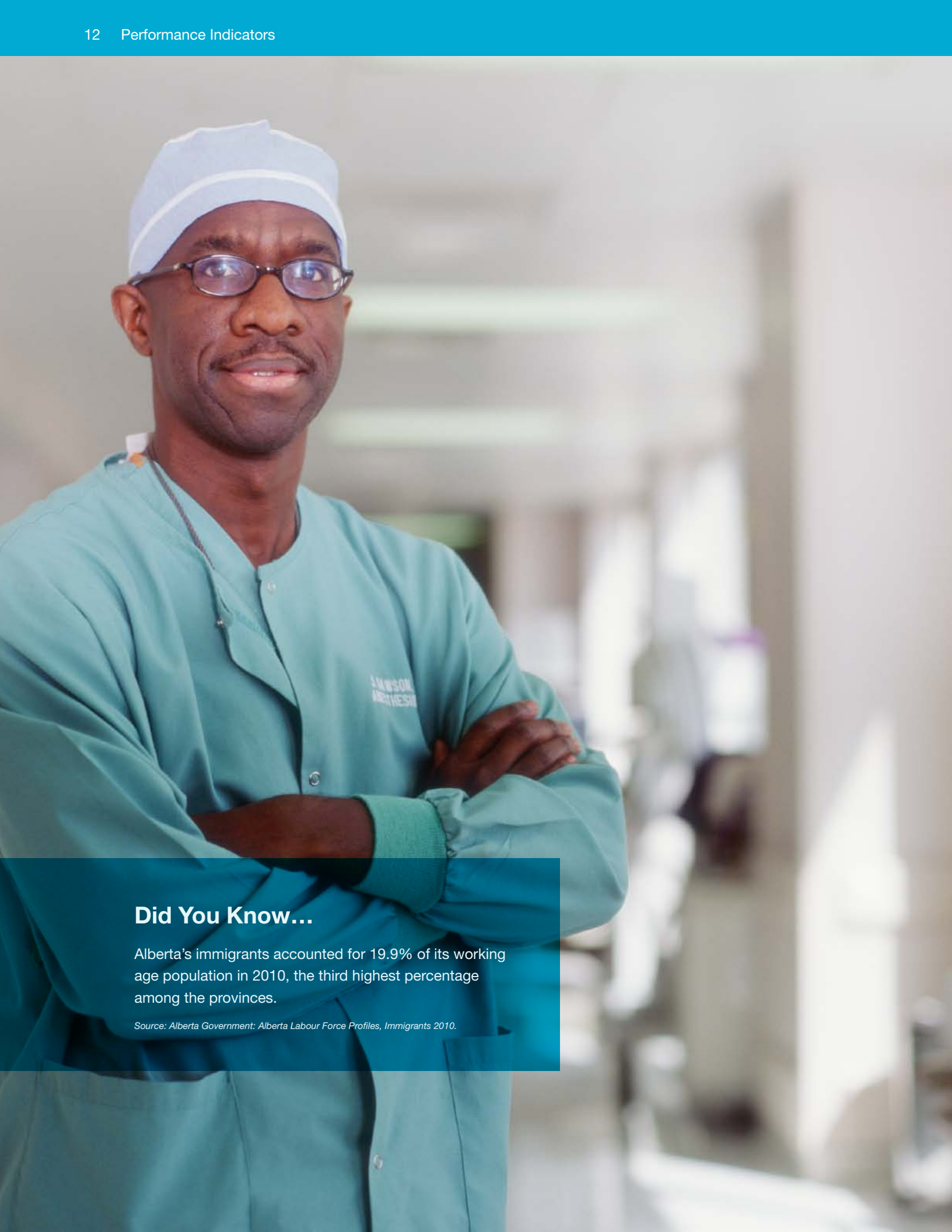
In Progress

- Alberta continues to fund a continuum of training programs targeted to immigrants by providing essential skills training, occupational skills training and bridging programs for skilled immigrants to help connect them to meaningful employment. *Employment and Immigration*
- Human Rights in the Workplace workshops are held on an ongoing basis. They provide information on how to achieve respectful workplaces that align with human rights principles and legislation. *Culture and Community Spirit*
- Workplace diversity training sessions offered by the Centre for Race Relations and funded by Employment and Immigration provide employers with information and supports to facilitate immigrants' inclusion and integration into the workplace. To date, 50 training sessions have been delivered to 773 employers who participated in the sessions. *Employment and Immigration*
- The International Medical Graduate Preceptor Program provides international medical graduates with training to enable them to work with a restricted licence. *Alberta Health and Wellness*



What it means:

Help immigrants access labour market opportunities.



Did You Know...

Alberta's immigrants accounted for 19.9% of its working age population in 2010, the third highest percentage among the provinces.

Source: Alberta Government: Alberta Labour Force Profiles, Immigrants 2010.

Working in Alberta – Temporary Foreign Workers

Objective: The TFW Program is an employer-driven federal program administered by CIC and HRSDC which allows employers to hire eligible foreign workers for an authorized period of time.

Achieved

- √ A TFW Annex to the Agreement for Canada-Alberta Cooperation on Immigration was signed in March 2008 to facilitate the entry of TFWs in order to meet Alberta's economic priorities and labour market objectives. Under the Annex, Alberta has launched three of six pilots related to the TFW Program. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Alberta signed an information sharing agreement with HRSDC that has improved monitoring and compliance under the TFW Program in an effort to help protect workers. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ As part of the province's commitment to the monitoring and compliance of TFWs, employment agencies and employers, Employment and Immigration has taken the lead in a coordinated enforcement approach through the initiation of a Canada-Alberta TFW Enforcement Group. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Two Temporary Foreign Worker Advisory Offices (one in Calgary and one in Edmonton) and a TFW Helpline have been established for assessing, referring and assisting TFWs. The objective of the TFW Advisory Office is to help TFWs learn about their rights and to assist in correcting unfair and unsafe working conditions. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ TFW information booklets, available in 14 languages, were developed for both employers and foreign workers to ensure they have a better understanding of their workplace rights and responsibilities. www.employment.alberta.ca/TFWguides-employers. www.employment.alberta.ca/TFWguides-employees. *Employment and Immigration*

- √ Funding has been provided to six settlement agencies in Alberta for the provision of support services to TFWs. *Employment and Immigration*
- √ Trades information for employers, recruiters and TFWs is available to assist with the process of recruiting trades people to Alberta and for working in the trades in Alberta. Packages outlining the TFW processes are available and information is accessible at www.tradesecrets.alberta.ca. *Advanced Education and Technology*
- √ The Apprenticeship and Industry Training Division of Advanced Education and Technology has conducted more than 8500 assessments for TFW trades people from more than 90 countries. *Advanced Education and Technology*

In Progress

- Alberta's *Fair Trading Act* is under review. The review will help clarify the information, obligations and guidelines surrounding agencies/brokers who recruit TFWs for businesses in Alberta. *Service Alberta*
- TFW roundtable consultations throughout Alberta were initiated to help identify where the TFW Program fits in Alberta's labour market and how to ensure it best meets the needs of Albertans. A report will be available 2011. *Employment and Immigration*



Did You Know...

Alberta received 24,018 new temporary foreign workers in 2010 - an increase from 18,507 foreign workers in 2006.

*Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada
-Facts and Figures, Immigration Overview, Permanent
and Temporary Residents.*

Immigration Trends in Alberta

Immigration Levels

Averaging 25,087 new immigrants annually, immigration to Alberta has been increasing over the period 2006-2010. Most new immigrants were of the Economic Class which accounted for 60.5%, on average. Sponsored family members accounted for 28.4% and refugees accounted for 8.6%, on average. The number of immigrants arriving in Alberta each year increased 57.6% over the period.

Category	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
Family	6,679	32.2	6,790	32.5	7,134	29.5	7,599	28.1	7,369	22.6
Economic	11,219	54.2	11,276	54.1	14,503	59.9	16,532	61.2	22,392	68.6
Refugees	2,334	11.3	2,216	10.6	1,845	7.6	2,237	8.3	2,210	6.8
Other	484	2.3	579	2.8	717	3.0	649	2.4	669	2.0
Total	20,716	100.0	20,861	100.0	24,199	100.0	27,017	100.0	32,640	100.0

Proportion of Alberta Immigrants to Canada Immigrants

Alberta is the fourth largest immigrant-receiving province in Canada. Its share of Canada immigrants increased gradually and consistently.

Province/Territory	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
Newfoundland and Labrador	508	0.2	546	0.2	616	0.2	603	0.2	681	0.2
Prince Edward Island	565	0.2	992	0.4	1,443	0.6	1,723	0.7	2,581	0.9
Nova Scotia	2,586	1.0	2,523	1.1	2,651	1.1	2,424	1.0	2,408	0.9
New Brunswick	1,646	0.7	1,643	0.7	1,856	0.8	1,913	0.8	2,125	0.8
Quebec	44,684	17.8	45,201	19.1	45,220	18.3	49,491	19.6	53,981	19.2
Ontario	125,892	50.0	111,315	47.0	110,878	44.8	106,859	42.4	118,116	42.1
Manitoba	10,047	4.0	10,954	4.6	11,218	4.5	13,521	5.4	15,803	5.6
Saskatchewan	2,724	1.1	3,516	1.5	4,835	2.0	6,890	2.7	7,671	2.7
Alberta	20,716	8.2	20,861	8.8	24,199	9.8	27,017	10.7	32,640	11.6
British Columbia	42,083	16.7	38,961	16.5	43,992	17.8	41,440	16.4	44,176	15.7
Yukon	65	0.0	83	0.0	110	0.0	174	0.1	350	0.1
Northwest Territories	98	0.0	88	0.0	127	0.1	107	0.0	137	0.0
Nunavut	12	0.0	19	0.0	50	0.0	10	0.0	19	0.0
Not Stated	16	0.0	52	0.0	52	0.0	0	0.0	2	0.0
Total	251,642	100.0	236,754	100.0	247,247	100.0	252,179	100.0	280,636	100.0

Top Ten Source Countries

Immigrants destined to Alberta came from over 160 countries. U.K. and Colonies, China, India, and the Philippines were consistently in the top five source countries of immigrants.

Country	2006	Country	2007	Country	2008	Country	2009	Country	2010
China	2,556	Philippines	2,753	Philippines	3,744	Philippines	4,647	Philippines	7,781
India	2,481	India	2,452	India	2,674	India	3,283	India	4,241
Philippines	2,329	China	1,797	UK and Colonies	1,873	China	2,034	China	1,917
Pakistan	1,330	UK and Colonies	1,392	China	1,843	UK and Colonies	1,955	UK and Colonies	1,878
UK and Colonies	1,118	Pakistan	1,359	USA	1,224	USA	1,076	USA	1,071
USA	980	USA	938	Pakistan	1,175	Pakistan	802	Nigeria	733
Vietnam	496	South Korea	460	South Korea	558	South Korea	620	Pakistan	647
Nigeria	460	Nigeria	383	Colombia	469	Nigeria	567	Germany	560
Colombia	440	Vietnam	381	Germany	461	Germany	558	Mexico	560
South Korea	378	Venezuela	362	Venezuela	436	Venezuela	396	South Korea	538
Top 10	12,568	Top 10	12,277	Top 10	14,457	Top 10	15,938	Top 10	19,926
% of Total	60.7%	% of Total	58.9%	% of Total	59.7%	% of Total	59.0%	% of Total	61.0%
Other Countries	8,148	Other Countries	8,584	Other Countries	9,742	Other Countries	11,079	Other Countries	12,714
% of Total	39.3%	% of Total	41.1%	% of Total	40.3%	% of Total	41.0%	% of Total	39.0%
Grand Total	20,716	Grand Total	20,861	Grand Total	24,199	Grand Total	27,017	Grand Total	32,640
Source Countries	168	Source Countries	176	Source Countries	178	Source Countries	174	Source Countries	173

Destination within Alberta

Most immigrants were destined to urban areas. Calgary was the top destination of immigrants for the period 2006-2010. On average, 52.5% of immigrants were destined to Calgary. Edmonton had, on average, 31.9% of immigrants destined to the province.

Urban area	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
Medicine Hat	171	0.8	163	0.8	181	0.7	169	0.6	207	0.6
Lethbridge	268	1.3	279	1.3	298	1.2	483	1.8	556	1.7
Calgary	11,823	57.1	11,246	53.9	13,038	53.9	13,708	50.7	16,100	49.3
Red Deer	293	1.4	567	2.7	676	2.8	537	2.0	585	1.8
Edmonton	6,444	31.1	6,540	31.4	7,517	31.1	8,508	31.5	11,007	33.7
Other Alberta	1,717	8.3	2,066	9.9	2,490	10.3	3,612	13.4	4,185	12.8
Total	20,716	100.0	20,861	100.0	24,199	100.0	27,017	100.0	32,640	100.0

Top Ten Mother Tongues

There were over 130 languages identified by new immigrants destined to the province as their mother tongue. English, Tagalog, Punjabi, Mandarin, and Spanish were consistently in the top five languages.

Language	2006	Language	2007	Language	2008	Language	2009	Language	2010
English	2,621	English	2,928	English	3,854	Tagalog	4,299	Tagalog	7,340
Mandarin	2,124	Tagalog	2,300	Tagalog	3,251	English	3,746	English	3,748
Tagalog	2,005	Punjabi	1,563	Spanish	1,776	Punjabi	2,123	Punjabi	2,362
Punjabi	1,842	Spanish	1,453	Punjabi	1,730	Spanish	1,859	Spanish	1,901
Spanish	1,295	Mandarin	1,451	Mandarin	1,473	Mandarin	1,569	Arabic	1,709
Urdu	1,006	Urdu	1,088	Arabic	1,258	Arabic	1,442	Mandarin	1,518
Arabic	951	Arabic	938	Urdu	985	Urdu	696	Hindi	872
Russian	561	Russian	505	Korean	565	Chinese	648	Urdu	675
Chinese	513	Korean	464	Hindi	556	Hindi	641	Chinese	610
Vietnamese	467	Chinese	454	German	506	Korean	623	Russian	599
Top 10	13,385	Top 10	13,144	Top 10	15,954	Top 10	17,646	Top 10	21,334
% of Total	64.6%	% of Total	63.0%	% of Total	65.9%	% of Total	65.3%	% of Total	65.4%
Other Languages	7,331	Other Languages	7,717	Other Languages	8,245	Other Languages	9,371	Other Languages	11,306
% of Total	35.4%	% of Total	37.0%	% of Total	34.1%	% of Total	34.7%	% of Total	34.6
Grand Total	20,716	Grand Total	20,861	Grand Total	24,199	Grand Total	27,017	Grand Total	32,640
Languages	138	Languages	144	Languages	147	Languages	150	Languages	157

Age Groups

About half of immigrants destined to the province were between 25 and 44 years old, on average.

Age Group	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
0-14	4,327	20.9	4,440	21.3	5,209	21.5	5,666	21.0	7,422	22.7
15-24	3,164	15.3	3,196	15.3	3,536	14.6	3,982	14.7	4,000	12.3
25-44	10,141	49.0	10,338	49.6	11,944	49.4	13,516	50.0	17,035	52.2
45-64	2,479	12.0	2,451	11.7	2,979	12.3	3,207	11.9	3,538	10.8
65+	605	2.9	436	2.1	531	2.2	646	2.4	645	2.0
Total	20,716	100.0	20,861	100.0	24,199	100.0	27,017	100.0	32,640	100.0
Total	20,716	100.0	20,861	100.0	24,199	100.0	27,017	100.0	32,640	100.0

Educational Background

On average, over a third of new immigrants came to Alberta with university degrees. A tenth, on average, came with trade certificates or non-university diplomas. Close to half of new immigrants, on average, had no more than 12 years of schooling.

Educational Level	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
0 to 9 years of schooling	7,092	34.2	7,282	34.9	7,915	32.7	8,769	32.5	10,882	33.3
10 to 12 years of schooling	2,628	12.7	2,601	12.5	2,963	12.2	3,436	12.7	3,774	11.6
13 or more years of schooling	1,221	5.9	1,175	5.6	1,261	5.2	1,390	5.1	1,490	4.6
Non-university diploma	1,768	8.5	1,752	8.4	2,277	9.4	2,587	9.6	3,075	9.4
Trade certificate	723	3.5	772	3.7	1,024	4.2	1,125	4.2	1,370	4.2
University	7,284	35.2	7,279	34.9	8,759	36.2	9,710	35.9	12,049	36.9
All Levels of Education	20,716	100.0	20,861	100.0	24,199	100.0	27,017	100.0	32,640	100.0

Alberta Immigrant Nominee Program (AINP)

The AINP is an immigration program operated by the Government of Alberta in conjunction with Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) to assist individuals to obtain permanent residence in Alberta. Alberta first nominates individuals who have skills that the province needs. Nominees then apply for permanent residence to CIC, where their application is fast-tracked. All provincial nominees must meet federal medical, criminal and security admissibility criteria.

For the calendar year ending December 31, 2010, the AINP received 9,014 Alberta employer and provincial nominee applications, an average of 751 per month.

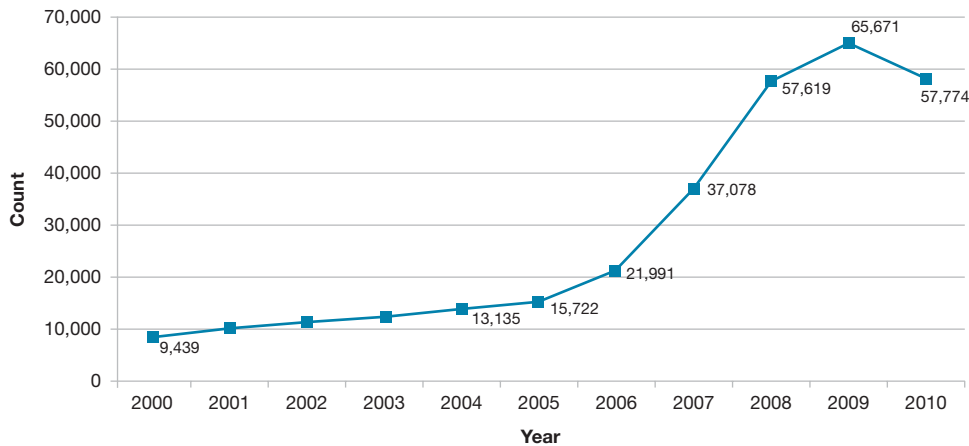
In this same period, the AINP issued 5,012 provincial nomination certificates, which translated to 13,378 prospective new immigrants, i.e., principal applicants and their dependants. Sixty per cent of the 5,012 nominations were under the Employer-Driven Stream, 30 per cent were under the Strategic Recruitment Stream and the remainder of the nominations were under the Family Stream followed by the Self-Employed Farmer Stream.

Stream	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Certificates	Immigrants	Certificates	Immigrants	Certificates	Immigrants	Certificates	Immigrants	Certificates	Immigrants
Employer-Driven	789	1983	1281	3486	2429	6157	2426	6363	2982	8400
Strategic Recruitment	-	-	-	-	300	812	1336	3422	1563	3965
Self-Employed Farmers	12	29	7	27	4	19	4	12	1	6
Family	-	-	-	-	74	139	450	977	466	1007
Total	801	2012	1288	3513	2807	7127	4216	10774	5012	13378

Data sources: Preliminary tables – Permanent and temporary residents, 2010 (release 2010 Q4), Citizenship and Immigration Canada; AINP, Alberta Employment and Immigration

Temporary Foreign Workers (TFWs) in Alberta

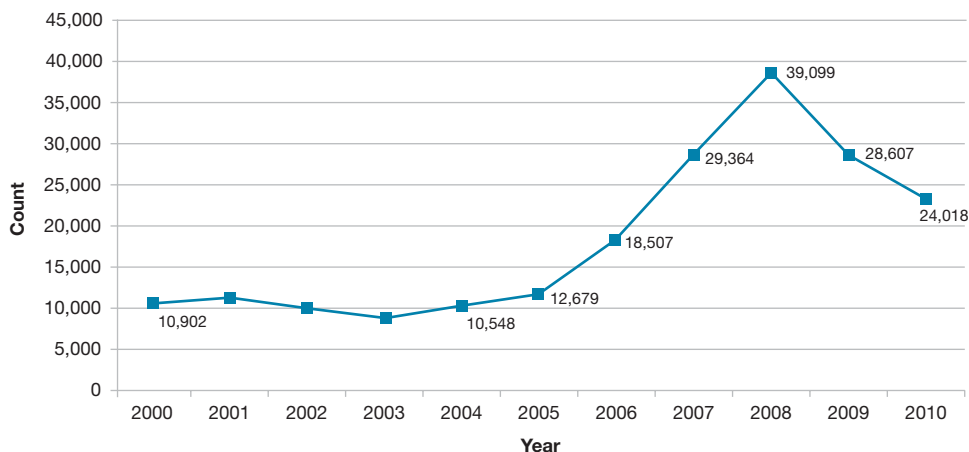
Foreign Workers Present on December 1, Alberta, 2000-2010



This chart measures the number of foreign workers with a valid work permit on December 1st of the observation year. It excludes those granted permanent resident status on or before the observation date and those whose document validity has expired or is not yet in effect. This statistic is the measure normally used to report the size of the temporary foreign worker population.

The temporary foreign worker population in Alberta grew from 9,439 in 2000 to 57,774 in 2010. This was due to the increasing number of annual entries from 2006 to 2008. Population levels began to increase significantly in 2004 and increased consistently year after year until 2010.

Total Entries of Foreign Workers, Alberta, 2000-2010



The total entries of foreign workers in an observed calendar year represent the sum of the number of foreign workers who enter Canada for the first time with a valid work permit and the number of foreign workers who are returning to Canada with a new work permit. Total entries depicted in the graph are all destined to Alberta.

From 2000 to 2010, on average, Alberta had an annual intake of 18,575 foreign workers. Increases in total entries were more pronounced beginning in 2006 and ending in 2008 where entries for the year peaked at 39,099. In 2010, total entries dropped 38.6% compared to 2008 due to a slowdown in economic activity in the province.

Proportion of Alberta TFWs to Canada TFWs

While most foreign workers end up working in Ontario, British Columbia, and Quebec (the top three destinations of foreign workers) Alberta has had a considerable share of foreign workers.

Province/Territory	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
Newfoundland and Labrador	969	0.7	1,241	0.8	1,301	0.7	1,392	0.8	1,205	0.7
Prince Edward Island	210	0.2	218	0.1	449	0.2	524	0.3	533	0.3
Nova Scotia	1,703	1.2	1,669	1.0	2,128	1.1	2,796	1.6	2,503	1.4
New Brunswick	1,043	0.8	1,292	0.8	1,711	0.9	1,703	1.0	1,687	0.9
Quebec	20,243	14.6	22,489	13.7	24,234	12.6	27,893	15.6	30,307	16.6
Ontario	59,049	42.5	64,000	38.9	66,714	34.7	61,187	34.3	65,798	36.1
Manitoba	2,995	2.2	3,924	2.4	4,207	2.2	3,652	2.0	3,304	1.8
Saskatchewan	1,896	1.4	2,473	1.5	3,653	1.9	3,938	2.2	3,122	1.7
Alberta	18,507	13.3	29,364	17.8	39,099	20.3	28,607	16.0	24,018	13.2
British Columbia	31,061	22.3	36,463	22.1	46,932	24.4	44,388	24.9	45,914	25.2
Yukon	201	0.1	157	0.1	235	0.1	239	0.1	266	0.1
Northwest Territories	261	0.2	397	0.2	251	0.1	149	0.1	227	0.1
Nunavut	90	0.1	137	0.1	43	0.0	175	0.1	52	0.0
Not Stated	776	0.6	906	0.5	1,232	0.6	1,628	0.9	3,386	1.9
Total	139,004	100.0	164,730	100.0	192,189	100.0	178,271	100.0	182,322	100.0

Top Ten Source Countries

Temporary foreign workers destined to Alberta came from over 100 countries. USA, U.K., Australia, Philippines, and Mexico were consistently in the top five source countries of temporary foreign workers.

Country	2006	Country	2007	Country	2008	Country	2009	Country	2010
USA	4,641	Philippines	5,969	Philippines	8,755	Philippines	6,167	USA	6,174
Philippines	2,244	USA	4,971	USA	6,527	USA	5,597	Philippines	3,231
UK and Colonies	1,832	Mexico	2,505	Mexico	3,396	UK and Colonies	2,079	UK and Colonies	1,614
Australia	1,467	UK and Colonies	2,125	UK and Colonies	2,765	Mexico	2,034	Mexico	1,534
Mexico	1,170	Australia	1,587	Australia	2,173	Australia	1,470	Australia	1,355
Germany	970	India	1,402	India	1,661	India	1,261	India	1,102
India	490	Germany	1,273	Germany	1,383	Germany	918	Germany	813
Japan	385	South Korea	531	South Korea	1,170	South Korea	727	Taiwan	710
New Zealand	367	China	522	UAE	593	Taiwan	519	South Korea	656
France	305	New Zealand	450	Japan	489	New Zealand	494	France	311
Top 10	13,871	Top 10	21,335	Top 10	28,912	Top 10	21,266	Top 10	17,500
% of Total	75.0	% of Total	72.7	% of Total	73.9	% of Total	74.3	% of Total	72.9
Other Countries	4,636	Other Countries	8,029	Other Countries	10,187	Other Countries	7,341	Other Countries	6,518
% of Total	25.0	% of Total	27.3	% of Total	26.1	% of Total	25.7	% of Total	27.1
Grand Total	18,507	Grand Total	29,364	Grand Total	39,099	Grand Total	28,607	Grand Total	24,018
Source Countries	120	Source Countries	150	Source Countries	157	Source Countries	143	Source Countries	136

Destination within Alberta

The metropolitan area of Calgary was the top destination of temporary foreign workers for the period 2006-2010. On average, 31.5% of temporary foreign workers were destined to the Calgary metropolitan area.

Urban area	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent	Count	Per cent
Medicine Hat	149	0.8	144	0.5	219	0.6	276	1.0	226	0.9
Lethbridge	211	1.1	308	1.0	382	1.0	372	1.3	324	1.3
Calgary	6,103	33.0	8,803	30.0	11,551	29.5	8,903	31.1	8,196	34.1
Red Deer	210	1.1	455	1.5	440	1.1	367	1.3	303	1.3
Edmonton	3,017	16.3	6,120	20.8	8,289	21.2	6,196	21.7	5,356	22.3
Wood Buffalo	516	2.8	589	2.0	1,002	2.6	618	2.2	628	2.6
Other Alberta	8,301	44.9	12,945	44.1	17,216	44.0	11,875	41.5	8,985	37.4
Total	18,507	100.0	29,364	100.0*	39,099	100.0	28,610	100.0	24,018	100.0

Data sources: Preliminary tables –Temporary residents, 2010 (release 2010 Q4), Citizenship and Immigration Canada