

MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, June 18, 2025

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Committee Room, Coquitlam City Hall

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Immigration Canada (Presentation by Planning Data Analyst Planning and Development)

7:05–7:30 p.m. (25 minutes)

3. Canada Day Update and Volunteer Sign-up (Introductory Comments by Planner 1 Community Planning)

7:30–7:45 p.m. (15 minutes)

4. Committee Members' Roundtable / Multicultural Communities and Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

7:45–8:10 p.m. (25 minutes)

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, September 17, 2025

ADJOURNMENT



**MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

A Regular Meeting of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

**Indicated Virtual Attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Matt Djonlic, Chair
Councillor Brent Asmundson, Vice Chair
Parmis Bagher Zadeh, Citizen Representative
Tina Balachandran, Citizen Representative
Leo Chen, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:09 p.m.)
Carolina Echeverri, Citizen Representative* (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)
Honore Gbedze, Citizen Representative*
Ann Johannes, Citizen Representative
Nikki Kasravi, Citizen Representative
Edgar Sanchez, Citizen Representative
Bibi Singh, Citizen Representative
Lucie Wee, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:22 p.m.)

ABSENT: Bita Rezaei, Citizen Representative (Regrets)

STAFF: Peer-Daniel Scheer, Manager Housing and Social Policy
Hilary Letwin, Manager Cultural Services
Victoria Elahi, Planner 1
Meghan Malkowich, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

The Chair conducted roundtable introductions of Committee members and Staff.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024

The Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Committee Welcome

The Committee Clerk gave a presentation entitled “2025 Advisory Committee Orientation Session” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

3. Review and Adoption of the 2025 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Work Plan

Planner 1 provided introductory comments relative to the 2025 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Draft Work Plan.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The status of the Welcome to Coquitlam Event and a desire to see it return as a yearly event at the City.
- Opportunities for collaboration with School District No. 43 and increased youth engagement.
- Inquiries into the Cultural Understanding Project.
- Concerns over wide-spread funding issues for non-profit settlement service providing organizations for newcomers to Canada and impacts relating to Item 7 on the Work Plan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the 2025 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Work Plan.

4. Streetscape Enhancement Program

The Manager Cultural Services gave a presentation entitled “Streetscape Enhancement Program” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Appreciation for the inclusion of youth and First Nations artists in the City’s 2024 Streetscape Enhancement Projects.
- Opportunities to utilize the public school system to organize and promote guided tours or art walks of the City’s public art to immigrant families.
- Opportunities to use multiple languages for social media posts promoting the City’s art and guided public art walks, and using QR codes to access information in other languages on public art signage.
- Interest in facilitating more public art installations with new construction, such as the planned mural for the SoCo Development by Anthem on Alderson Avenue.
- Opportunities for the City to facilitate local artists meeting in public spaces to showcase their art.
- Opportunities for the City to facilitate storytelling through public art installations by referencing different groups histories.
- Interest in incorporating the use of alternative forms of art such as sculpture and textiles in the City’s Streetscape Enhancement Program.
- Opportunities to utilize functional infrastructure as a platform for art, such as public seating areas.
- The lifespan of murals and the City’s plans for when existing murals have reached the end of their lifespan.
- Interest in an accessible archive of public art to preserve temporary art and art that has reached the end of its lifespan.
- Opportunities for community engagement with collaborative public art projects that allow individuals or groups to contribute a piece of art to the greater installation.

5. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Multiculturalism Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging multiculturalism issues and events in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Interest in increasing the Summer Concert Series at Town Center Park and Blue Mountain Park and opportunities to engage with the city’s youth by incorporating performances by school bands and choirs.
- Upcoming events and free resources for newcomers at the Coquitlam Public

Library.

- Concerns over rising anti-immigration rhetoric and interest in exploring initiatives to strengthen inclusion and belonging.
- Opportunities to bridge the gap within immigrant communities between newcomers and immigrants who have resided in the City for a length of time.
- Interest in making one of the remaining Multiculturalism Advisory Committee meetings a potluck.
- Concern due to increasing cuts to public funding for settlement services resulting in a major reduction in resources that can be provided to newcomers and the City's role in monitoring the changes and advocating for these service providers.
- Concern for the impact of funding cuts on the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program and the loss of opportunity for immigrants to obtain higher levels of English proficiency and skills that would assist in finding better employment.
- Importance of anti-racism workshops and promoting bystander training and advocacy.
- Opportunities to address multiculturalism issues in more isolated communities in Coquitlam.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, April 16, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Matt Djonlic, Chair

Meghan Malkowich, Committee Clerk

City of Coquitlam
Planning and
Development

Immigration British Columbia

Data doc #5690031

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Coquitlam



Agenda

- Immigration Categories
- Immigration Statistics for BC
- Immigration Plans



Coquitlam

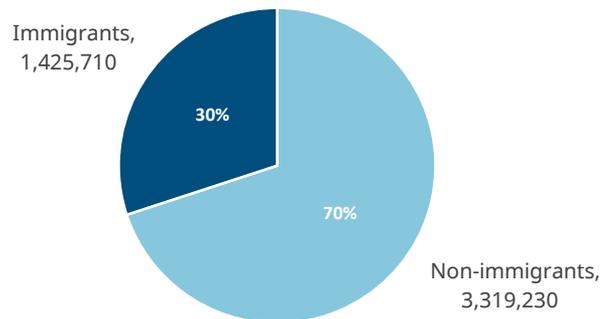
Immigrant Definition

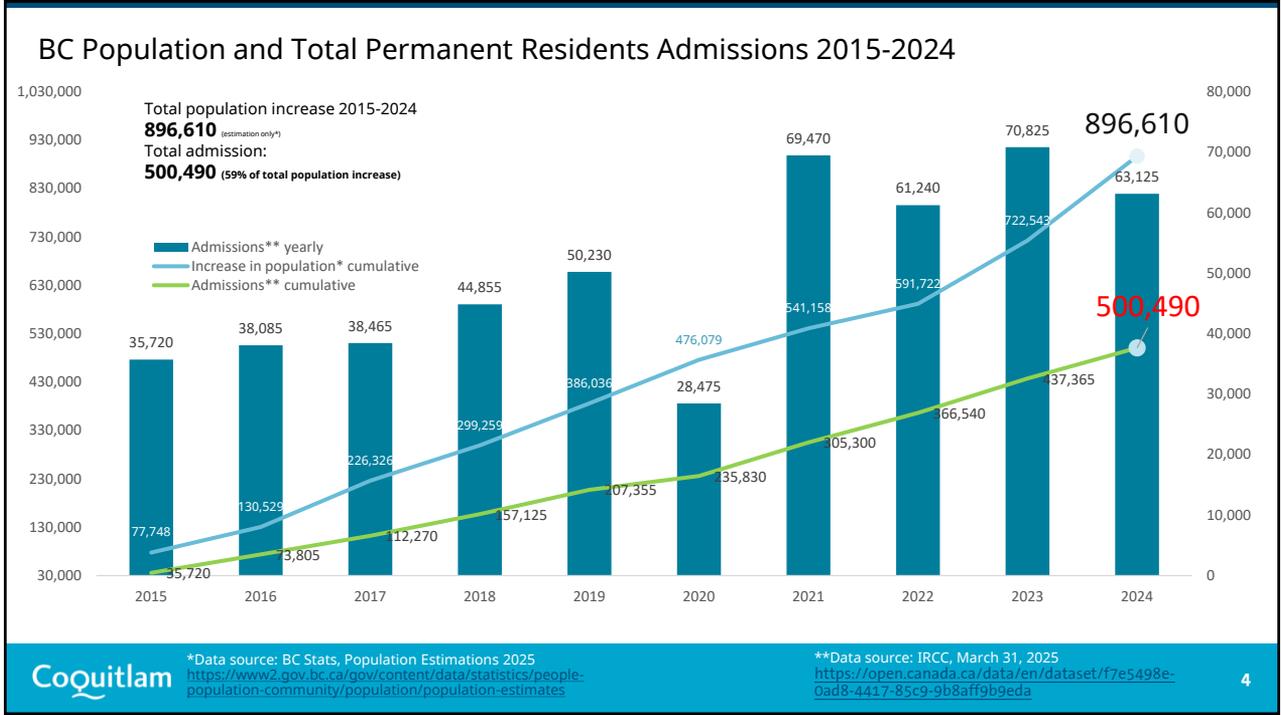
Immigrant refers to a person who is, or who has ever been, a landed immigrant or permanent resident. Such a person has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Immigrants who have obtained Canadian citizenship by naturalization are included in this group.

In the 2021 Census of Population, 'Immigrant' includes immigrants who were admitted to Canada on or prior to May 11, 2021.

British Columbia population* 2021: **5,000,879**

2021 Census: BC immigration





Immigration Categories

Coquitlam

1. Economic Immigration (63%)

Economic immigration to Canada involves various programs designed to attract **skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and investors** to contribute to the Canadian economy. These programs are primarily focused on helping individuals meet labor market needs, establish businesses, or invest in Canadian industries, ultimately benefiting the country's economic growth and development.

2. Family Class Programs (27%)

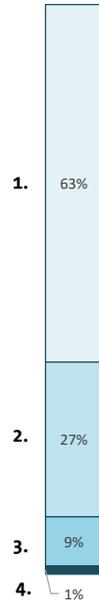
Family immigration in Canada, specifically through the Family Sponsorship program, allows Canadian citizens and permanent residents to **sponsor close relatives** for permanent residency. This program aims to reunite families and ensure that sponsored relatives can live, work, and study in Canada.

3. Refugees and Protected Persons (9%)

Refugee immigration in Canada involves two primary pathways: **resettlement** and **refugee claims**. Refugee resettlement refers to individuals who are outside Canada and are selected for resettlement by the Canadian government through various programs. Refugee claims, on the other hand, are made by individuals inside Canada or at the border who seek protection from persecution.

4. Other (1%)

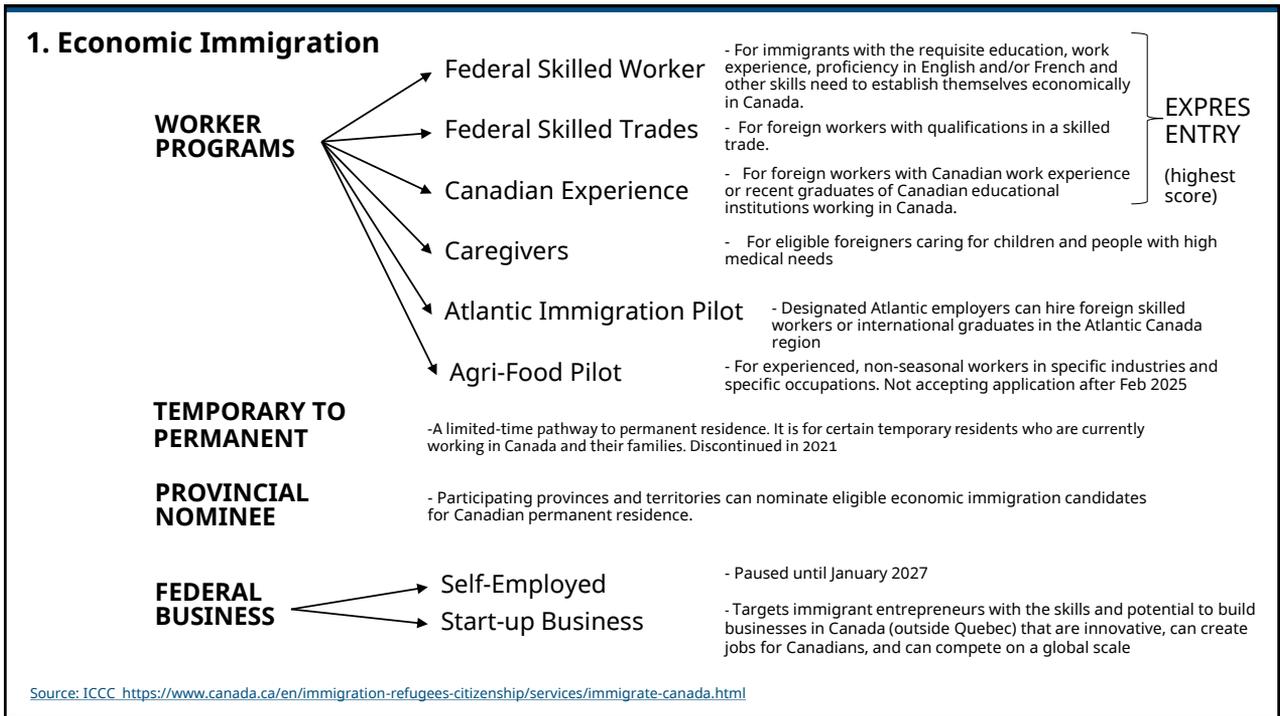
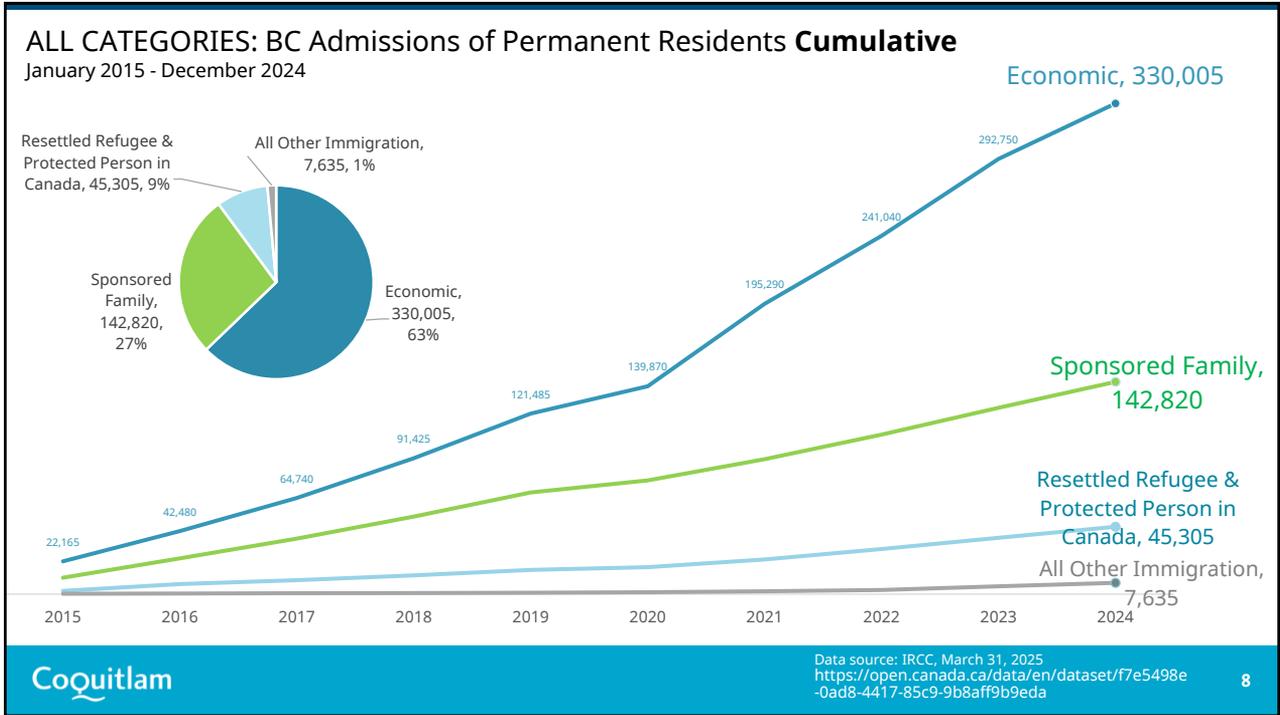
Total admissions of permanent residents 2015-2024

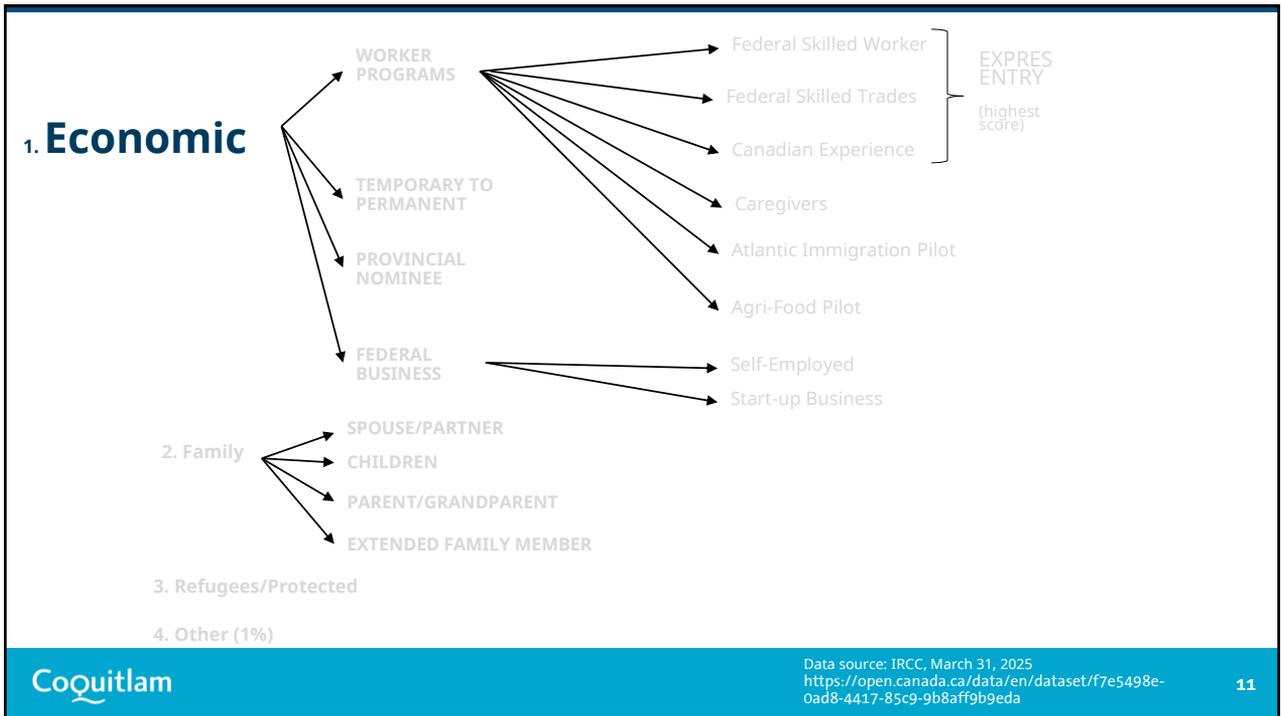
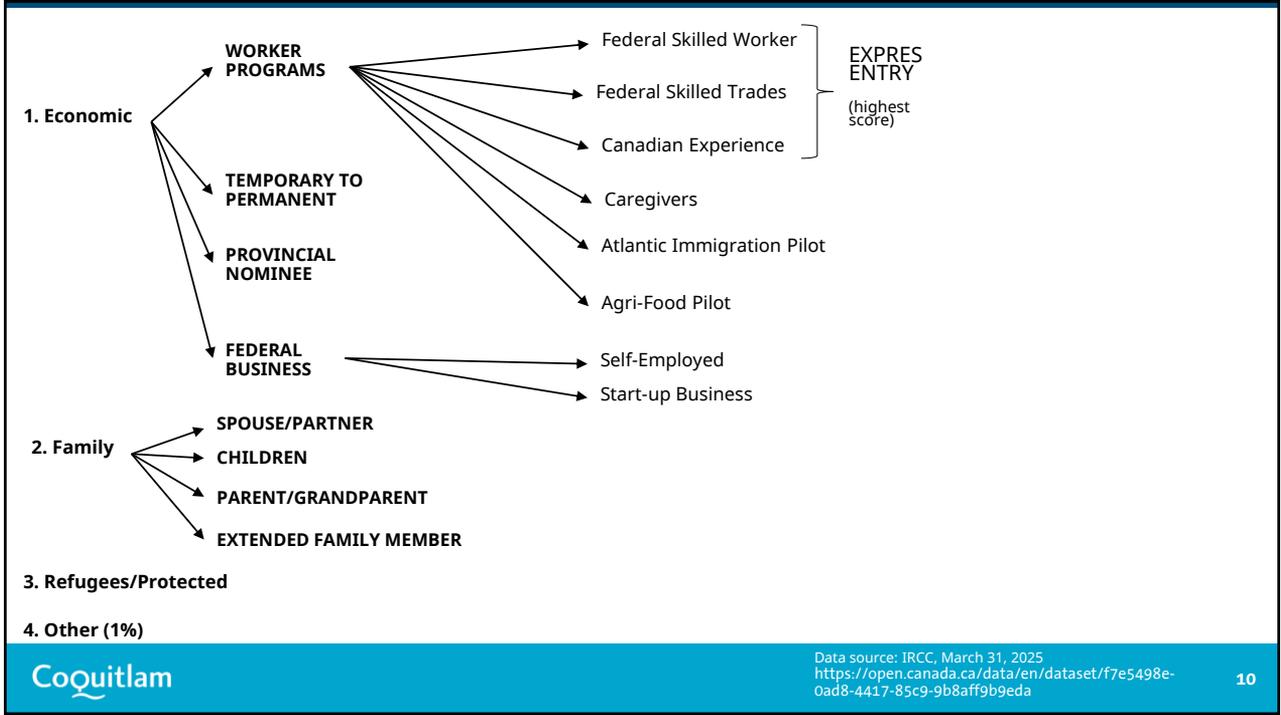


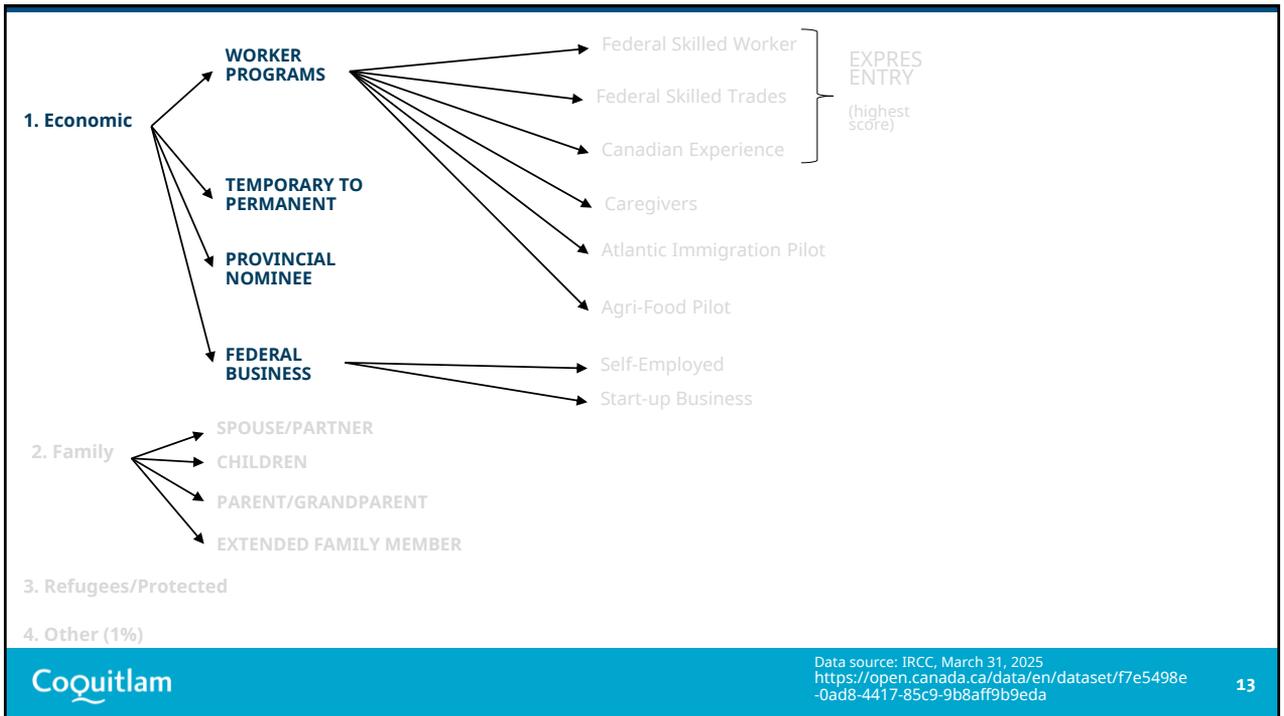
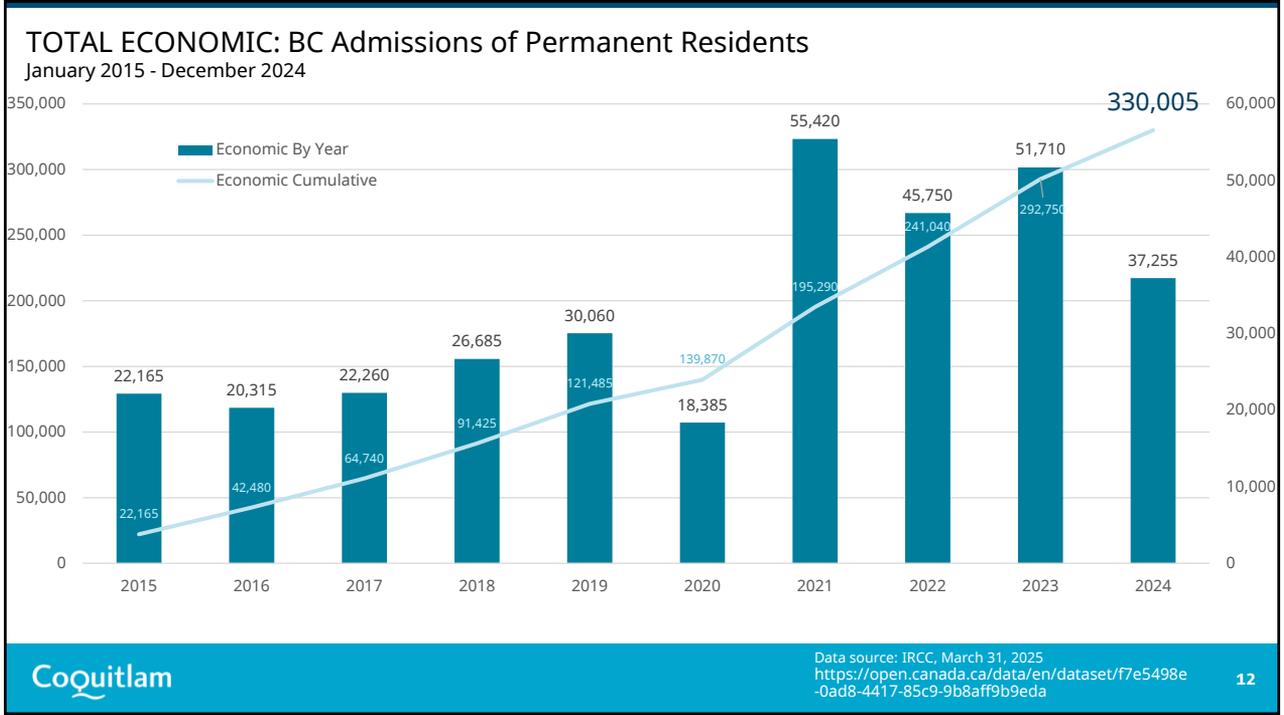
ALL CATEGORIES: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents Yearly

January 2015 - December 2024









ECONOMIC BY SUBCATEGORY: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents Yearly

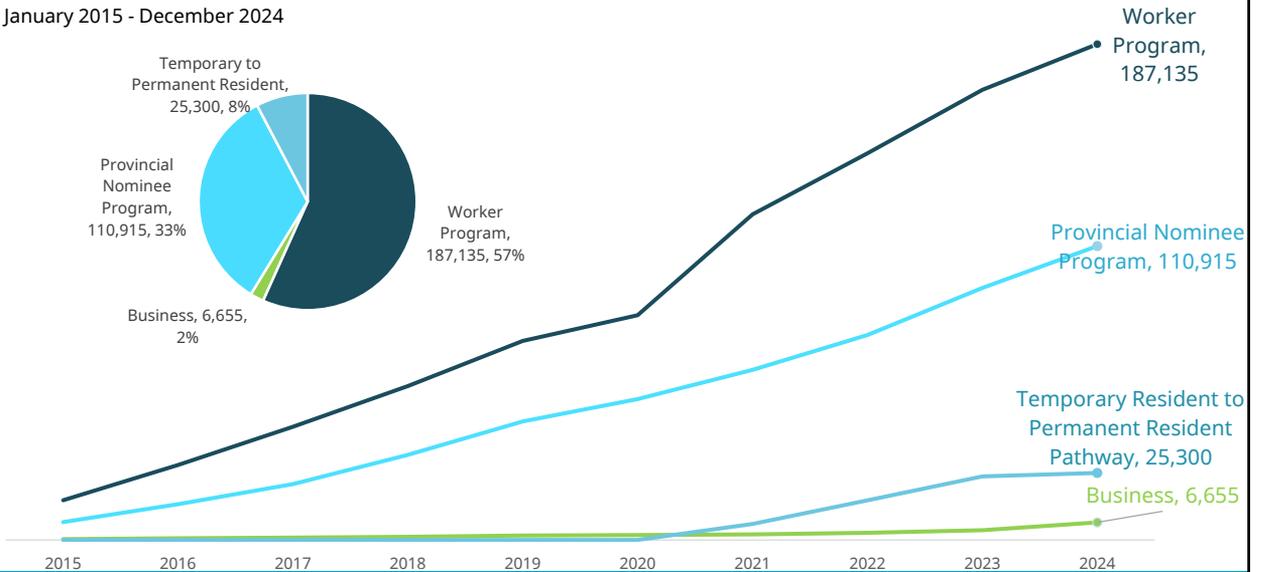
January 2015 - December 2024

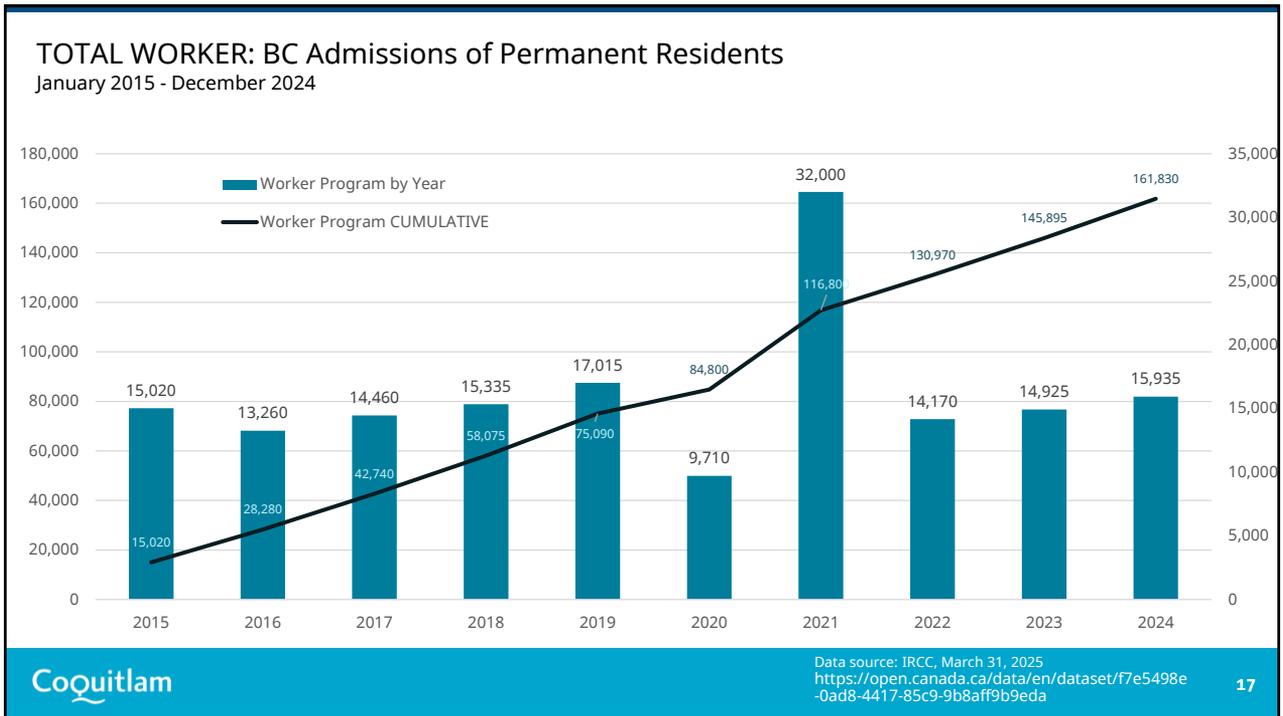
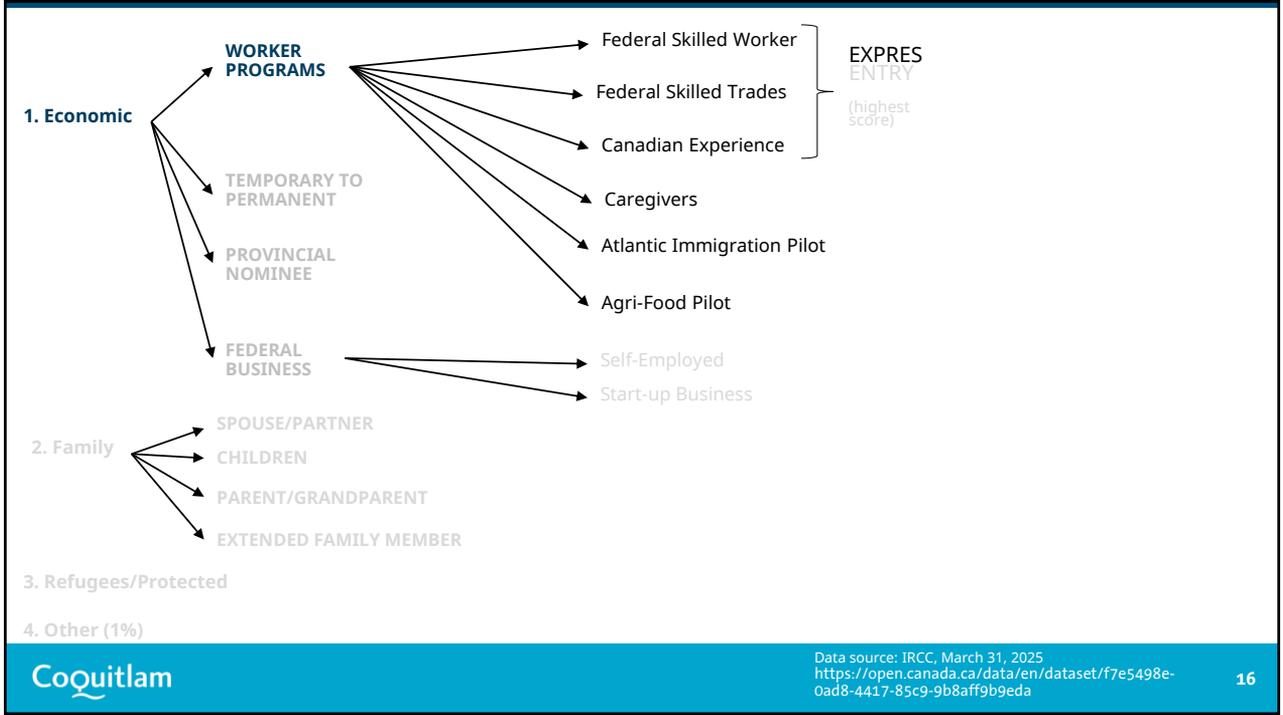


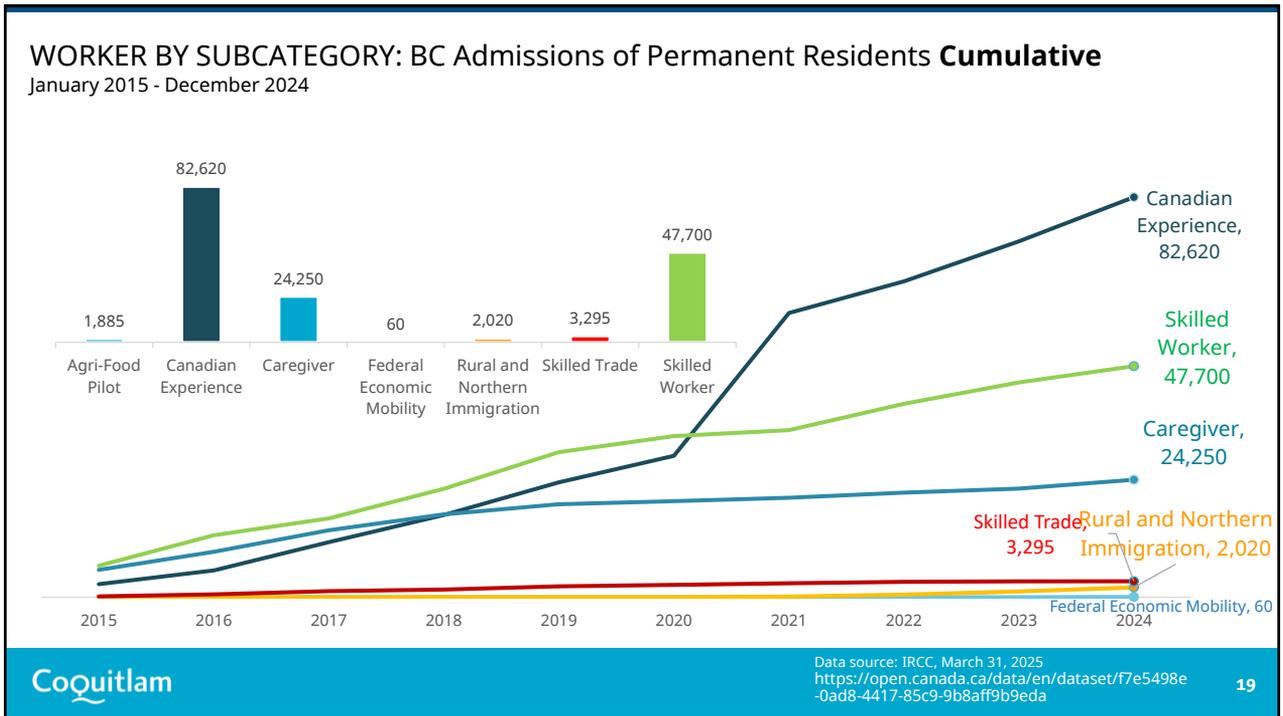
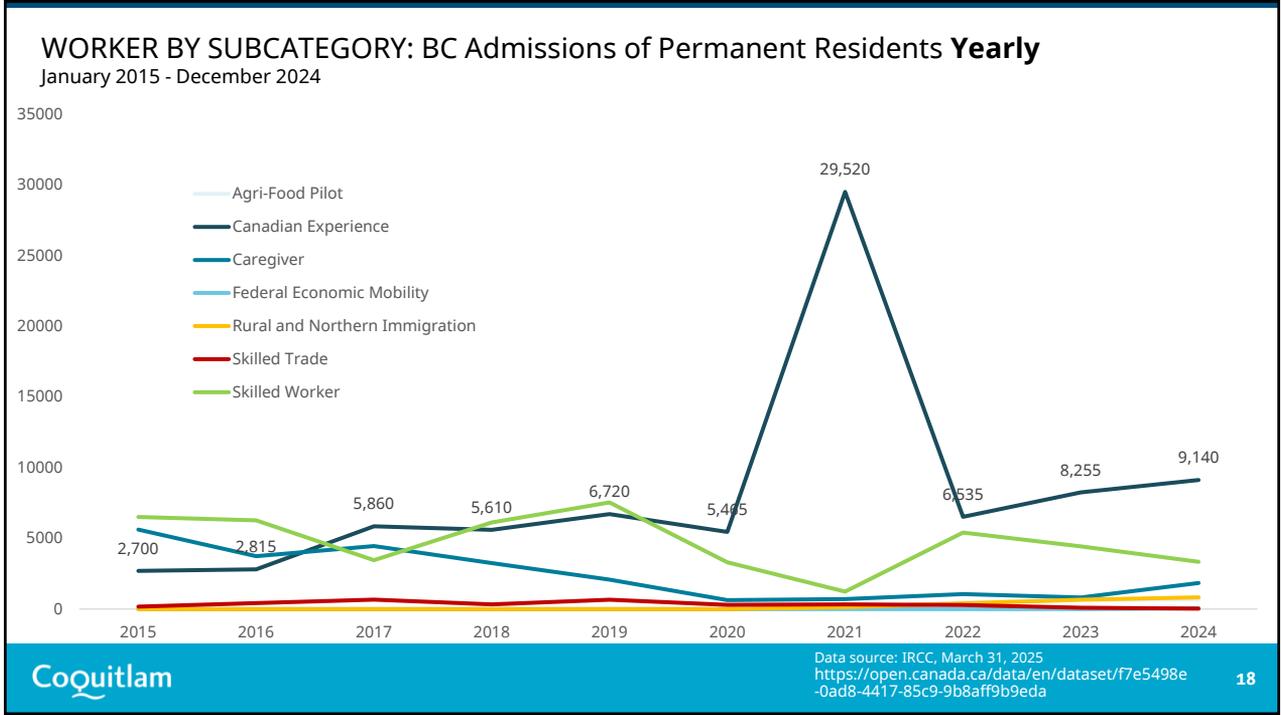
1. Economic Immigration cont.

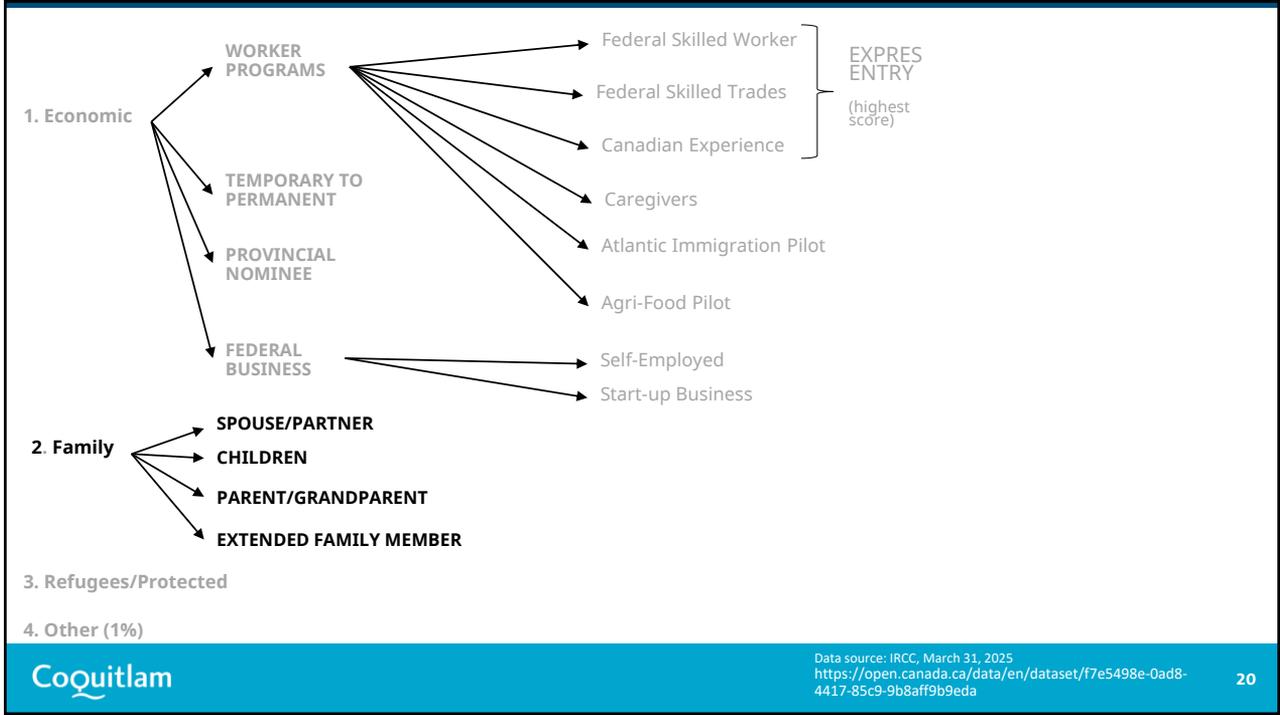
ECONOMIC BY SUBCATEGORY: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents Cumulative

January 2015 - December 2024









2. Family Class Programs

You don't have to stay in an abusive relationship to keep your status in Canada

Sponsored Spouse or Partner
 The person who's abusing you might tell you that you'll be deported or lose your children if you leave. If you're a permanent resident, [you have rights and freedoms in Canada](#).

Sponsored Children
Sponsored Adopted Child
 There used to be a condition on some sponsored spouses or partners of Canadian citizens and permanent residents. Under that condition, you had to live with your sponsor to keep permanent resident status. That condition no longer exists, and your status no longer depends on you living with your sponsor.

Sponsored Parent or Grandparent

Sponsored Extended Family Member

When you sponsor a relative to become a permanent resident of Canada, you must commit to financially supporting them and their accompanying family members

- beginning on the date they become a permanent resident
- for up to 20 years (depending on their age and how you're related)

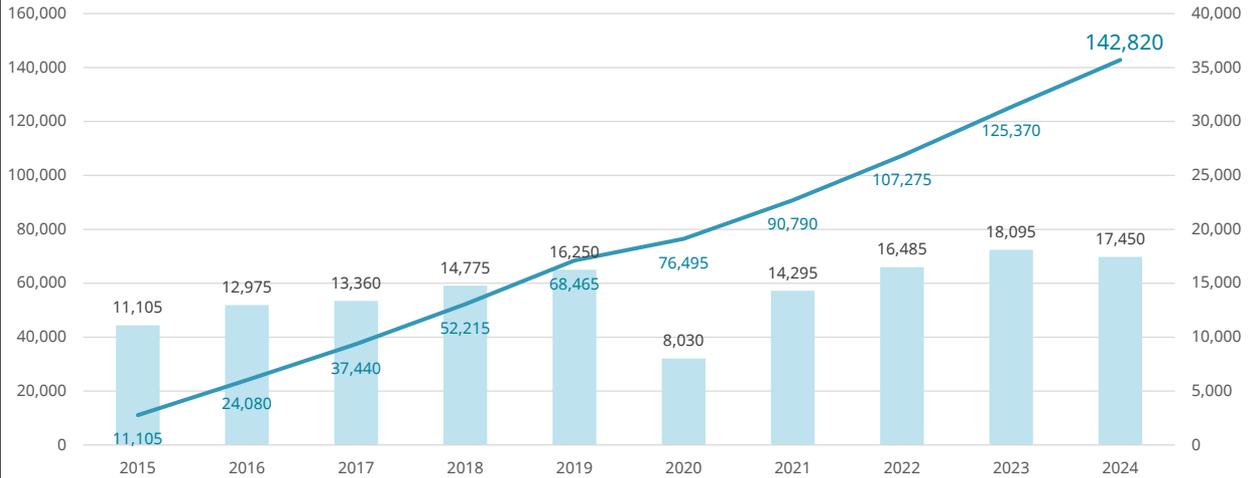
making sure they won't need to ask the government for social assistance

- If they receive social assistance during the time you're responsible for them, you'll have to re-pay the amount. You won't be able to sponsor anyone else until you've re-paid it.

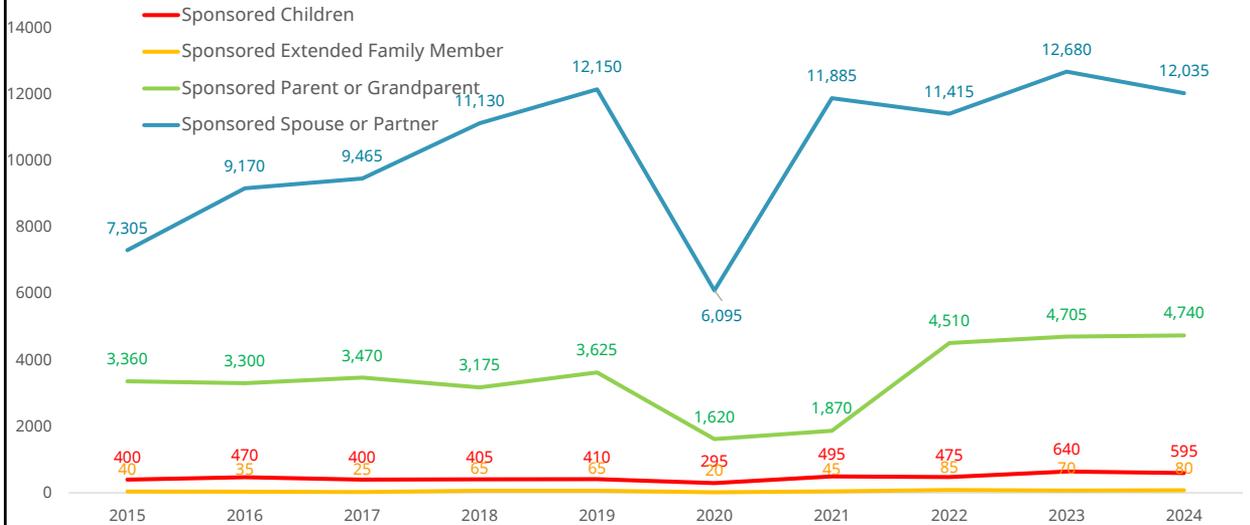
Data source: IRCC, March 31, 2025
<https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/f7e5498e-0ad8-4417-85c9-9b8aff9b9eda>

Coquitlam 21

TOTAL FAMILY: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents January 2015 - December 2024

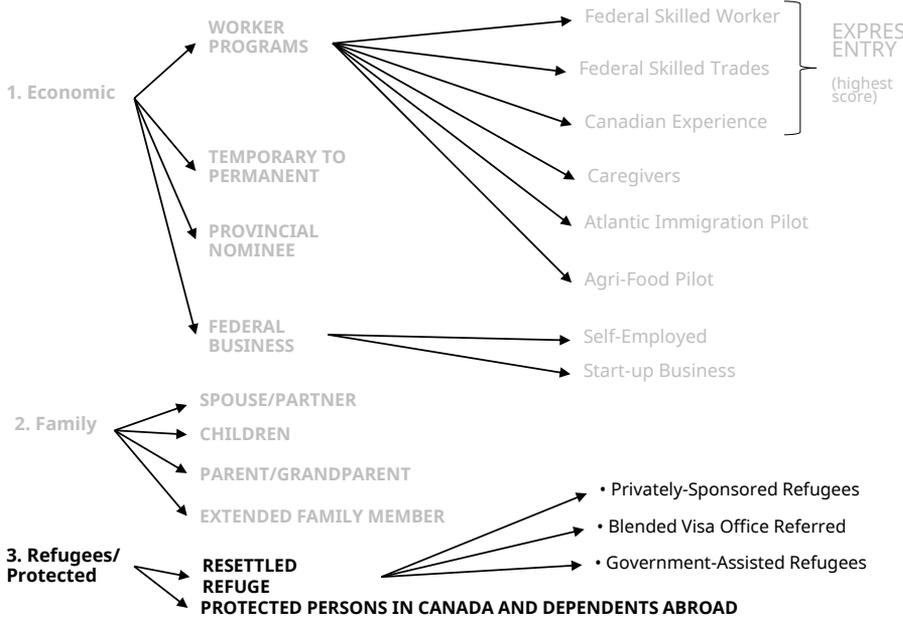
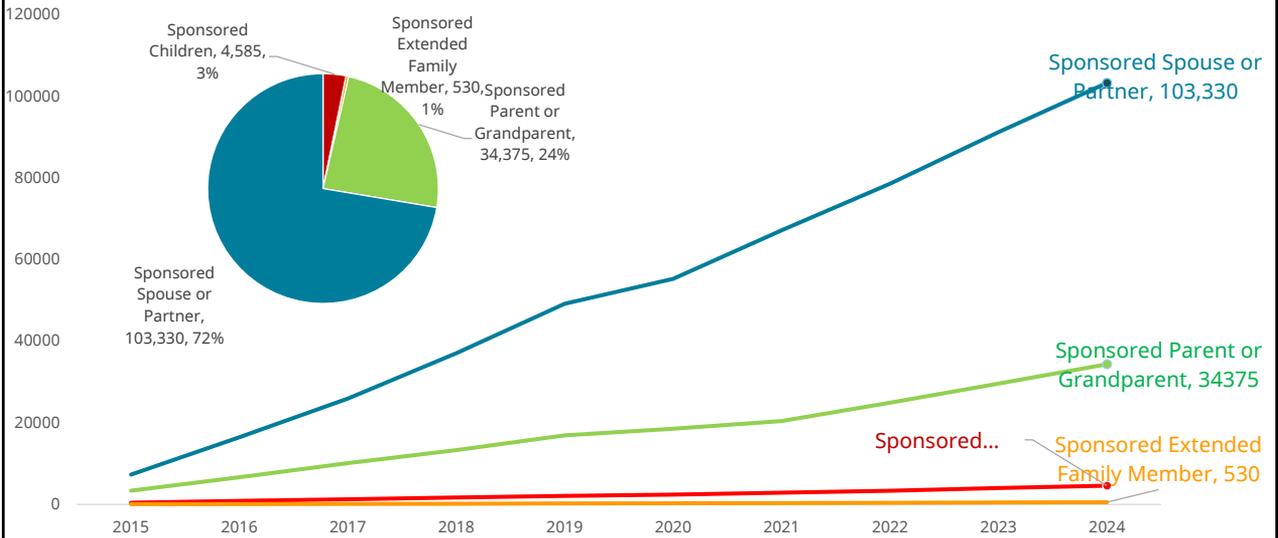


FAMILY BY SUBCATEGORY: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents Yearly January 2015 - December 2024



FAMILY BY SUBCATEGORY: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents **Cumulative**

January 2015 - December 2024



3. Refugees and Protected Persons, Humanitarian and other

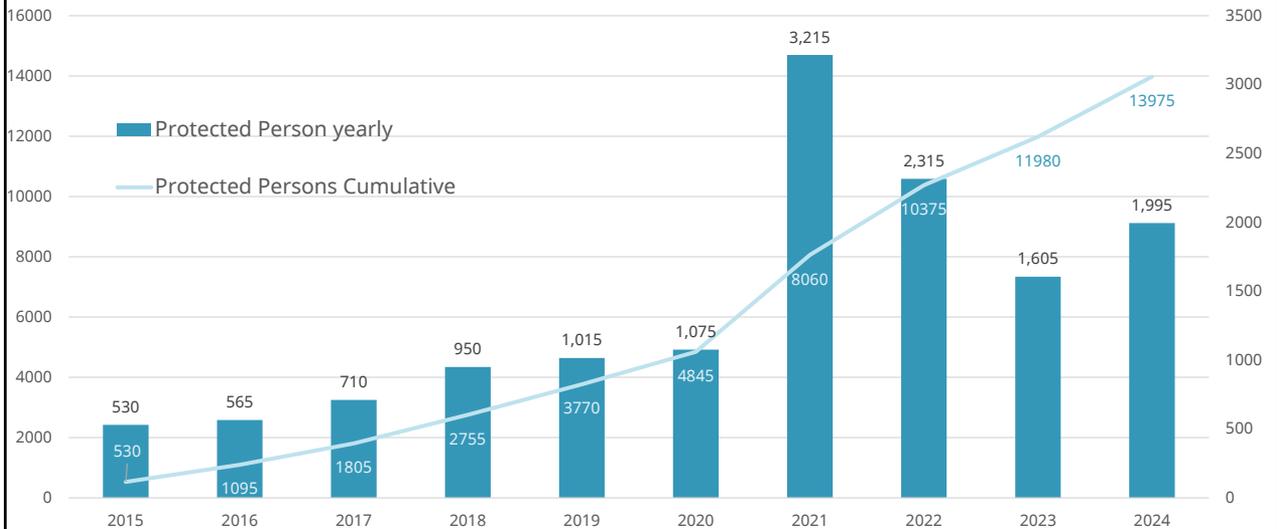
PROTECTED PERSONS IN CANADA AND DEPENDENTS ABROAD

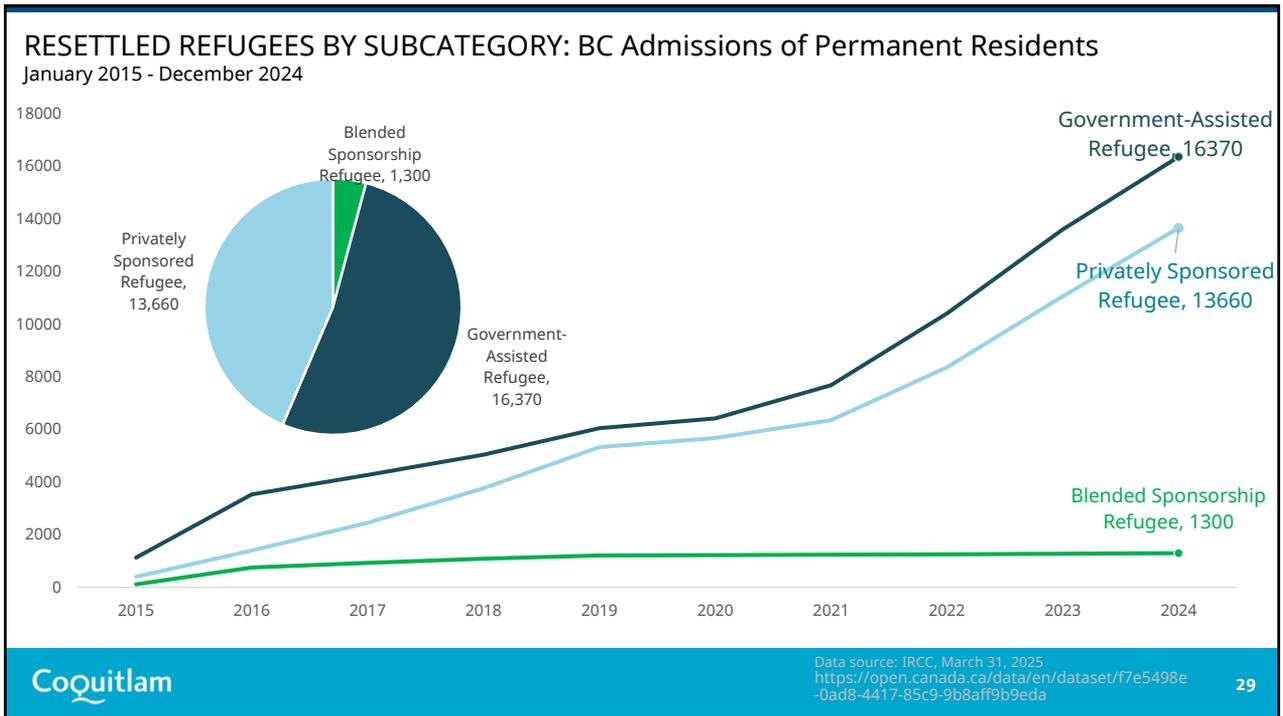
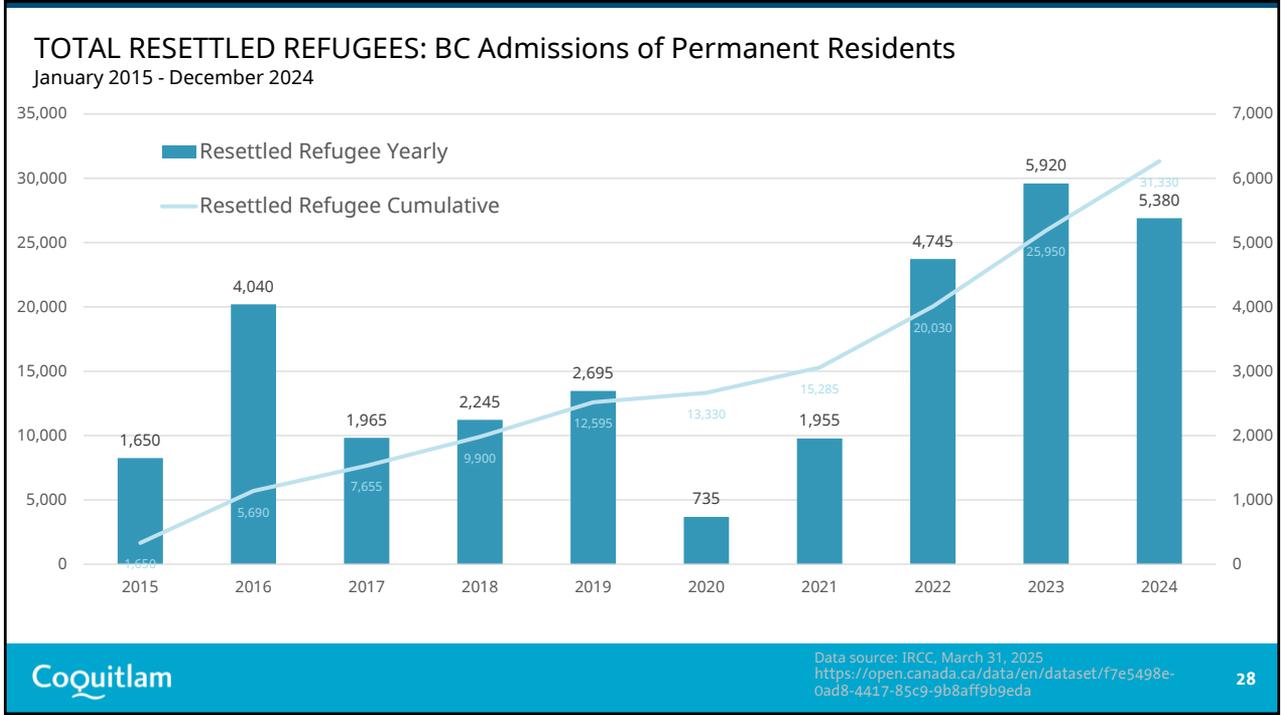
The Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) and IRCC decide who is a Protected Person. If the IRB determined you to be a person in need of protection or a Convention refugee or if you received a positive decision on your Pre-Removal Risk Assessment (PRRA) from IRCC, you are a Protected Person and may apply for permanent residence with this application.

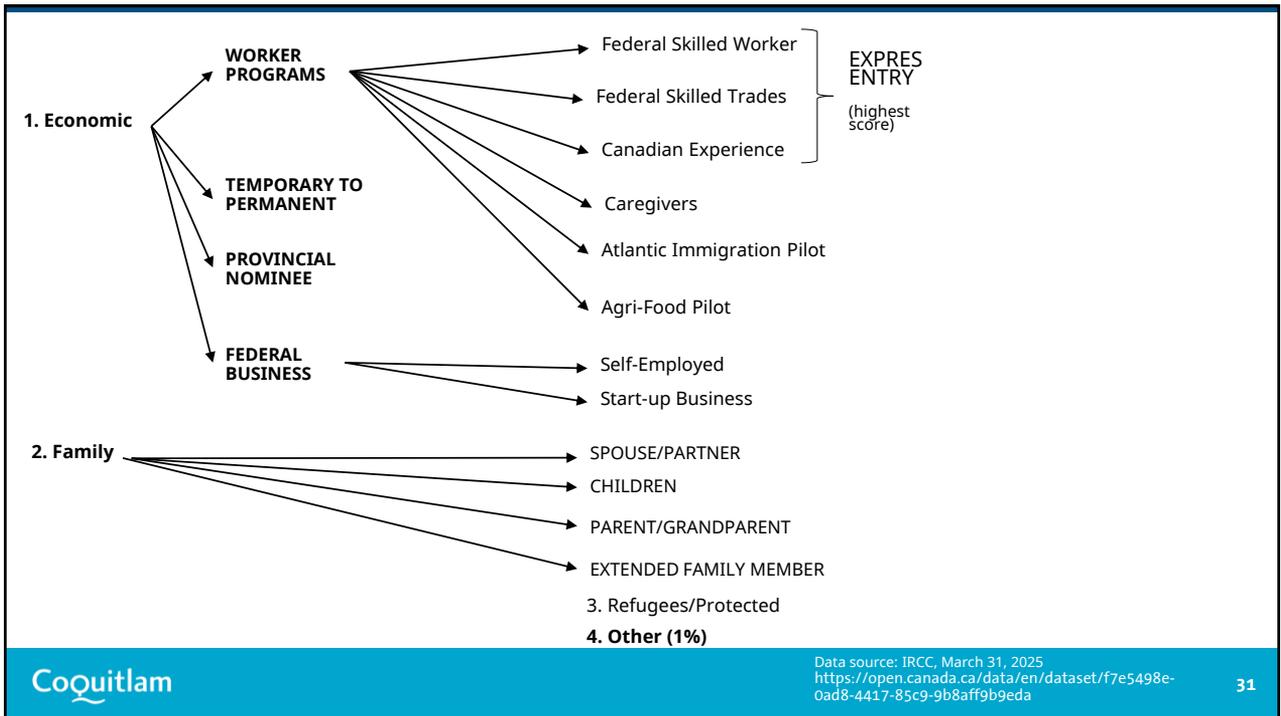
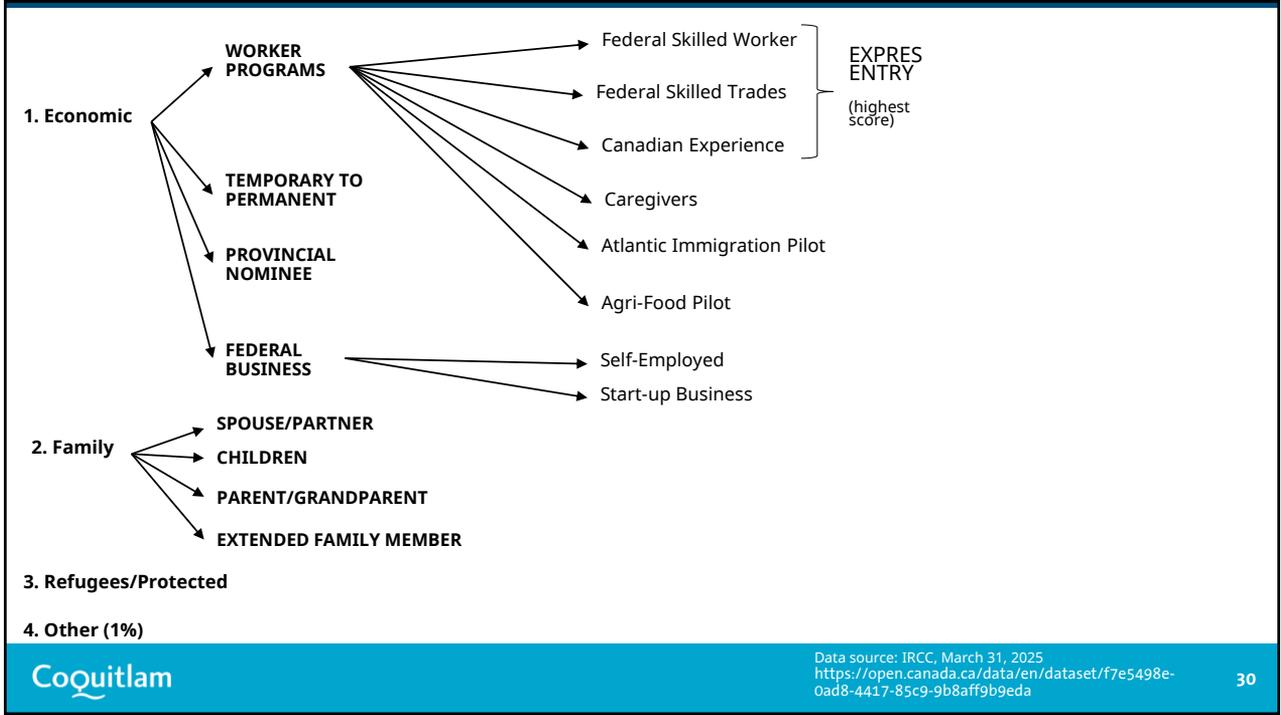


TOTAL PROTECTED PERSONS: BC Admissions of Permanent Residents

January 2015 - December 2024

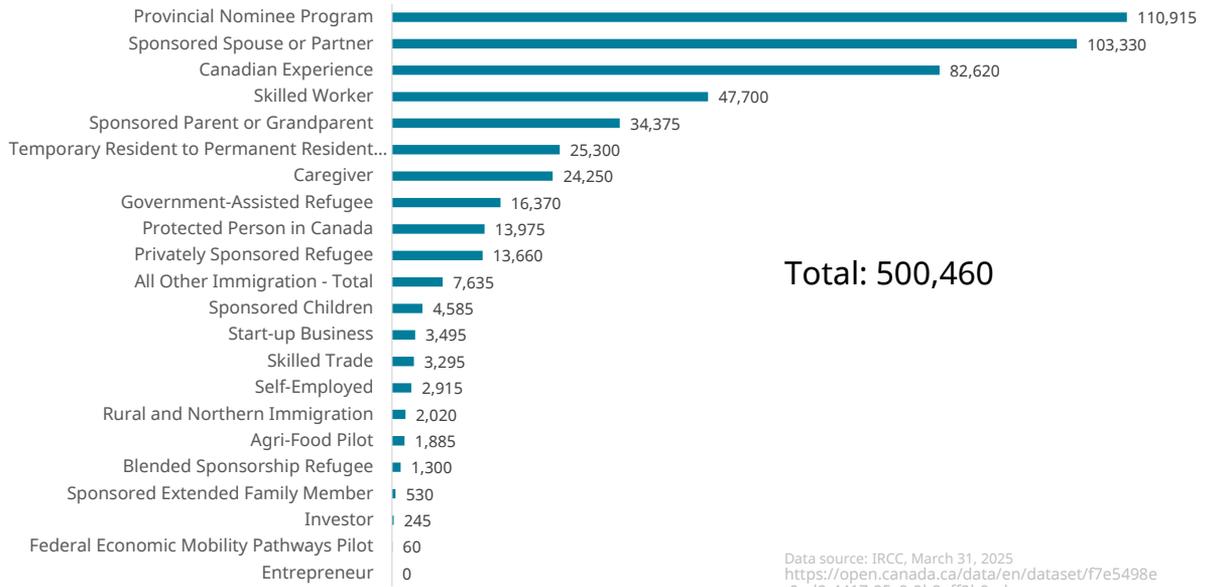






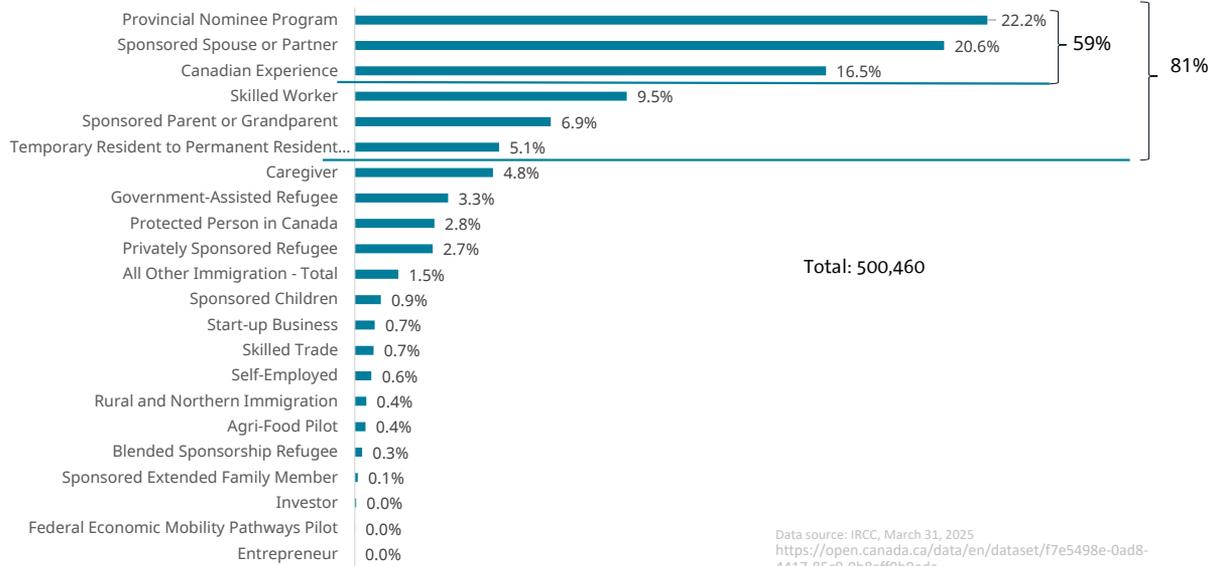
BC Admissions of Permanent Residents by All Subcategories

January 2015 - December 2024



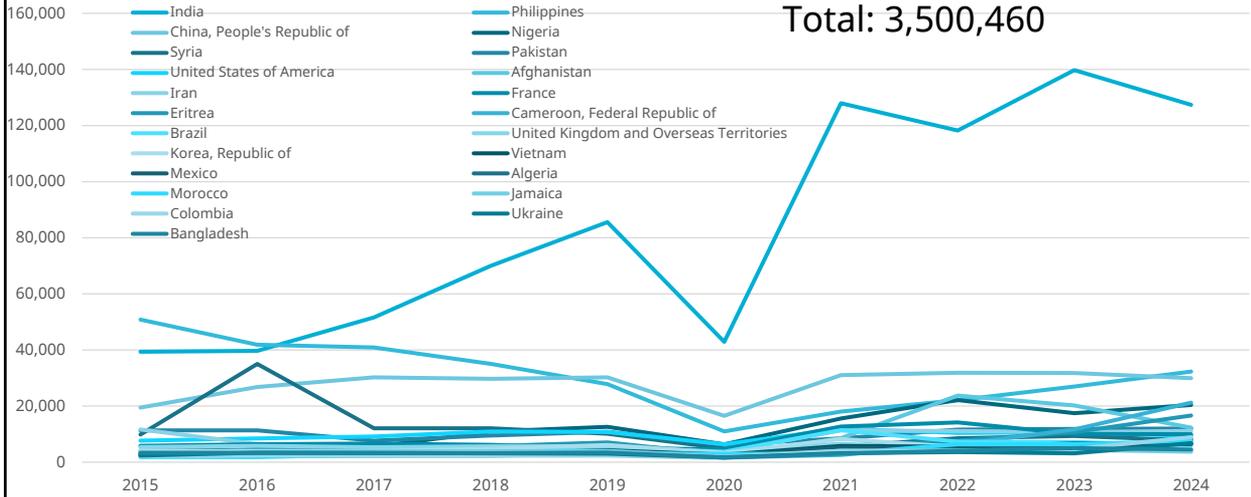
Total BC Admissions of Permanent Residents

January 2015 - December 2024 (% of total)



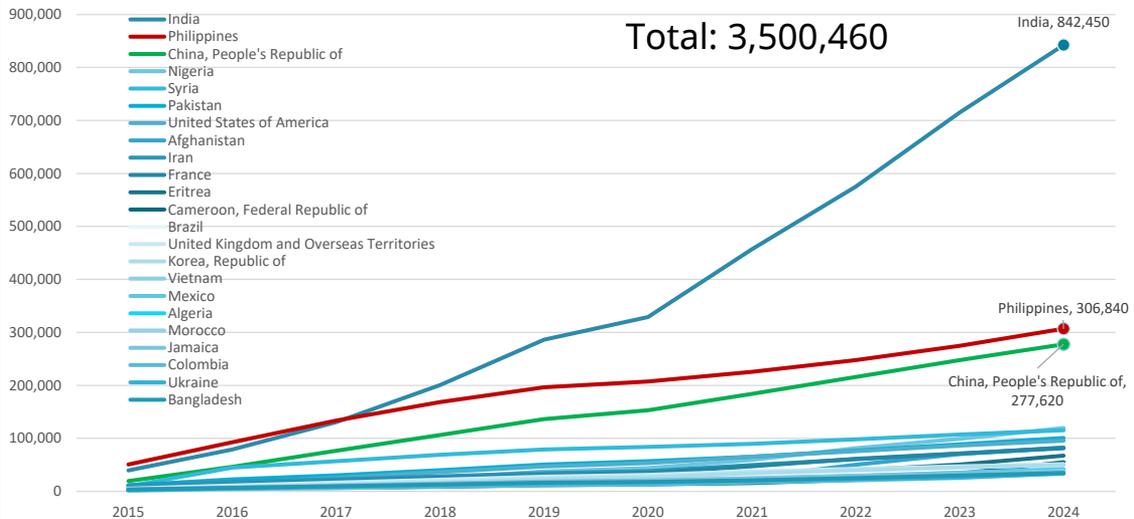
Canada - Admissions of Permanent Residents by Country of Citizenship Yearly

January 2015 - December 2024
(Only countries with 1% of more of total admissions)



Canada - Admissions of Permanent Residents by Country of Citizenship Cumulative

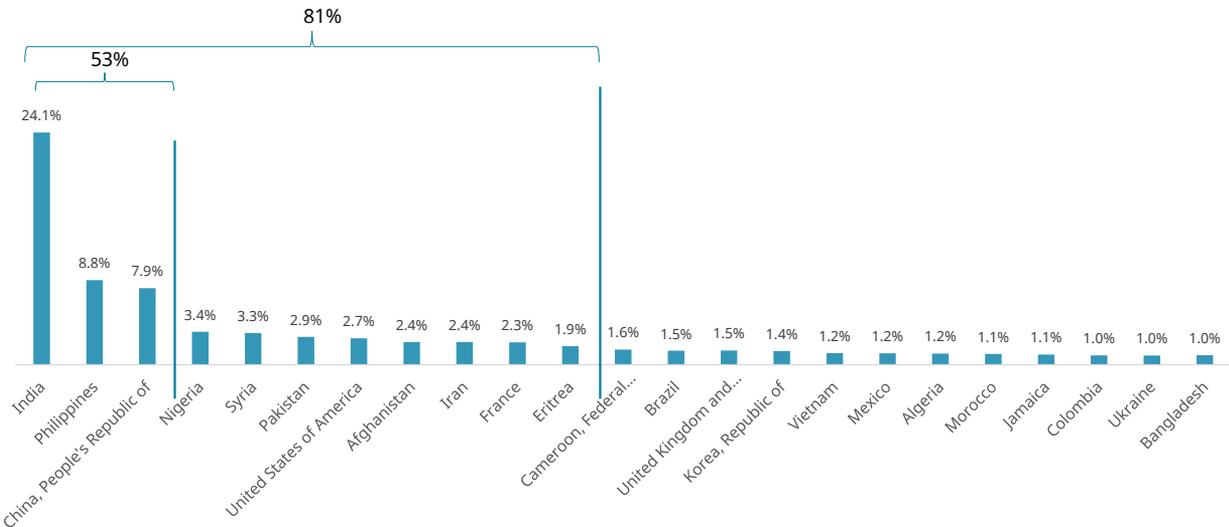
January 2015 - December 2024
(Only countries with 1% of more of total admissions)



Country of Citizenship	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
India	39,340	39,710	51,590	69,985	85,590	42,875	127,945	118,250	139,790	127,375
Philippines	50,840	41,850	40,905	35,050	27,820	10,975	18,020	22,095	26,965	32,320
China, People's Republic of	19,460	26,790	30,250	29,715	30,245	16,525	31,015	31,865	31,785	29,970
Nigeria	4,090	4,415	5,445	10,920	12,600	6,360	15,595	22,130	17,465	20,395
Syria	9,850	35,000	12,060	12,045	10,120	4,880	5,590	8,510	9,345	7,750
Pakistan	11,300	11,350	7,655	9,490	10,795	6,230	8,480	11,600	11,860	11,960
United States of America	7,655	8,485	9,140	10,900	10,780	6,380	11,955	10,415	10,640	9,330
Afghanistan	2,630	2,650	3,455	3,560	3,900	1,660	8,570	23,750	20,180	12,285
Iran	11,640	6,475	4,730	5,510	6,055	3,815	11,305	11,110	10,680	11,150
France	5,850	6,390	6,625	6,175	4,960	4,605	12,690	14,150	10,075	9,945
Eritrea	2,210	4,655	4,690	5,695	7,030	2,645	5,380	7,660	10,680	16,600
Cameroon	2,030	2,100	2,285	2,275	2,950	1,595	2,565	6,265	11,685	21,210
Brazil	1,730	1,730	2,760	3,950	5,290	3,695	11,425	7,335	7,225	5,985
United Kingdom	5,360	5,805	5,310	5,660	5,635	3,410	6,560	4,495	4,990	4,135
Korea, Republic of	4,105	4,010	3,980	4,800	6,100	3,285	8,240	5,455	5,205	4,365
Vietnam	2,595	2,450	2,505	3,050	4,220	2,610	5,755	5,460	6,605	6,710
Mexico	3,220	3,390	3,135	3,310	3,460	2,430	5,145	5,220	5,735	6,415
Algeria	2,830	2,820	2,635	3,225	3,705	2,720	3,080	6,175	5,245	8,255
Morocco	2,705	2,110	2,265	2,780	3,025	2,980	2,950	6,390	6,410	7,635
Jamaica	3,415	3,560	3,830	3,875	3,980	2,030	4,045	4,245	4,340	3,720
Colombia	2,180	2,435	2,235	2,270	2,275	1,520	4,055	3,775	4,660	8,865
Ukraine	2,345	3,350	3,310	3,135	2,995	1,675	3,190	3,575	3,110	6,780
Bangladesh	3,305	3,230	3,190	3,205	3,395	1,620	3,000	4,055	5,020	4,535

Canada - TOTAL Admissions of Permanent Residents by Country of Citizenship

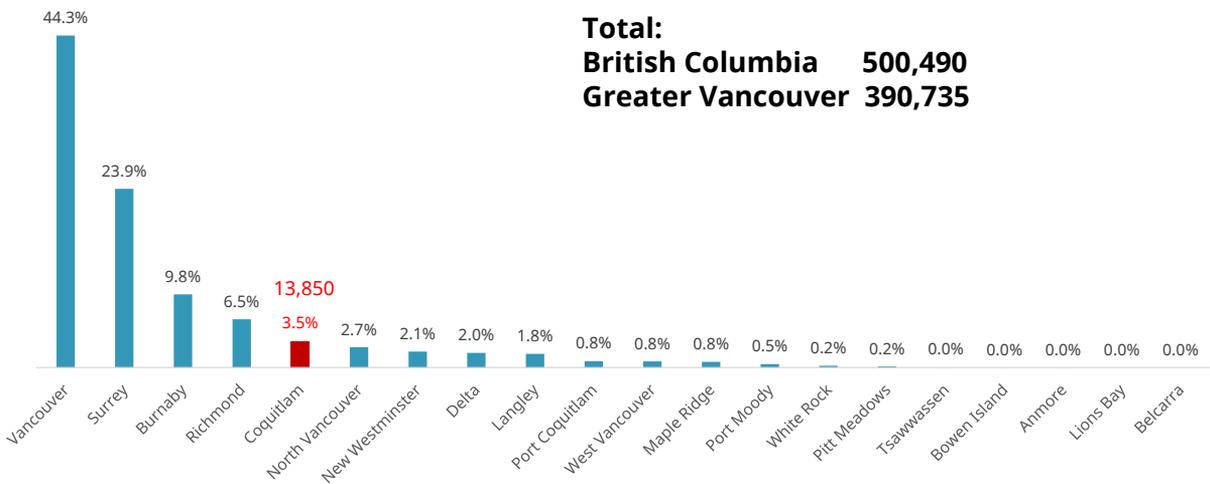
January 2015 - December 2024
 (Only countries with 1% or more of total admissions)

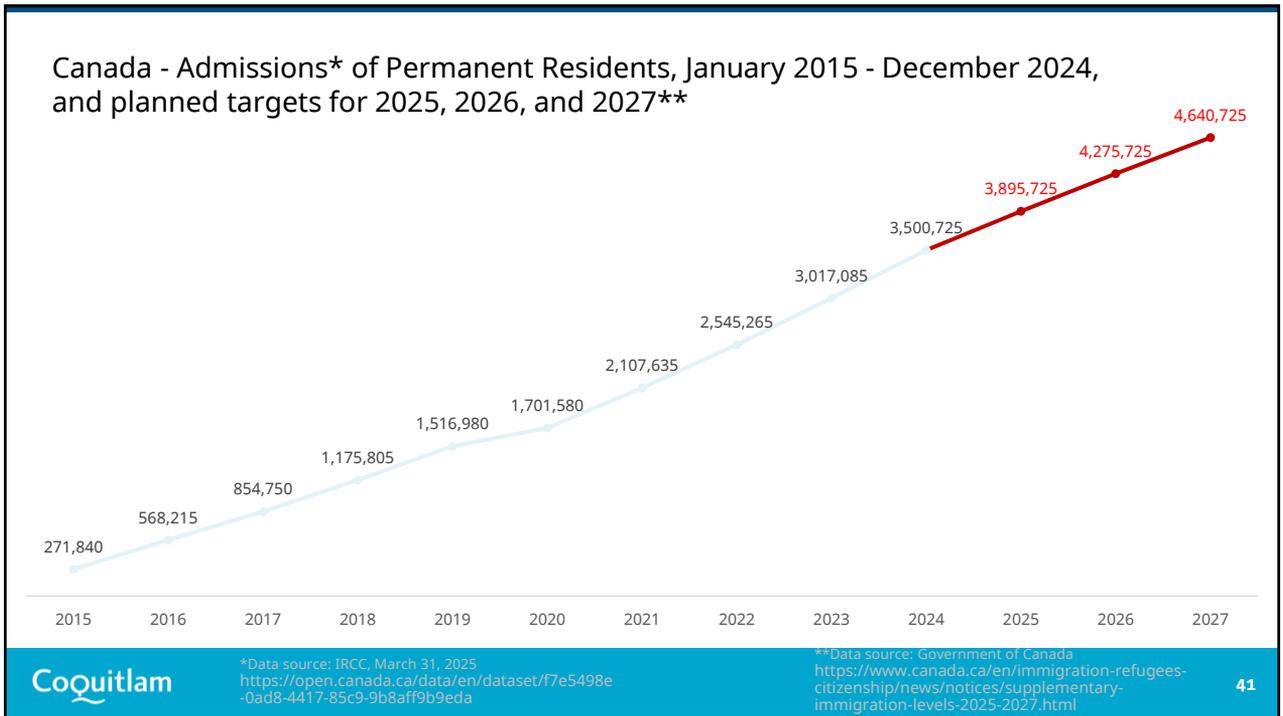
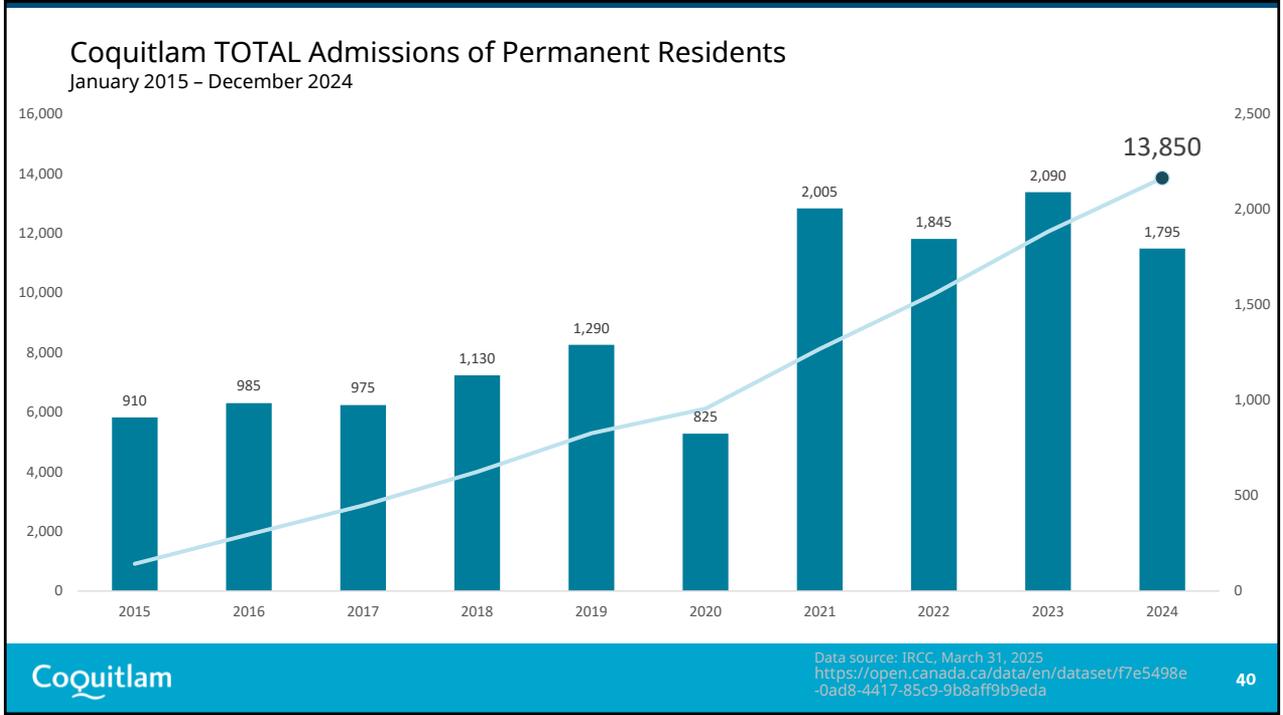


BC – Admissions of Permanent Residents by REGION January 2015 – December 2024

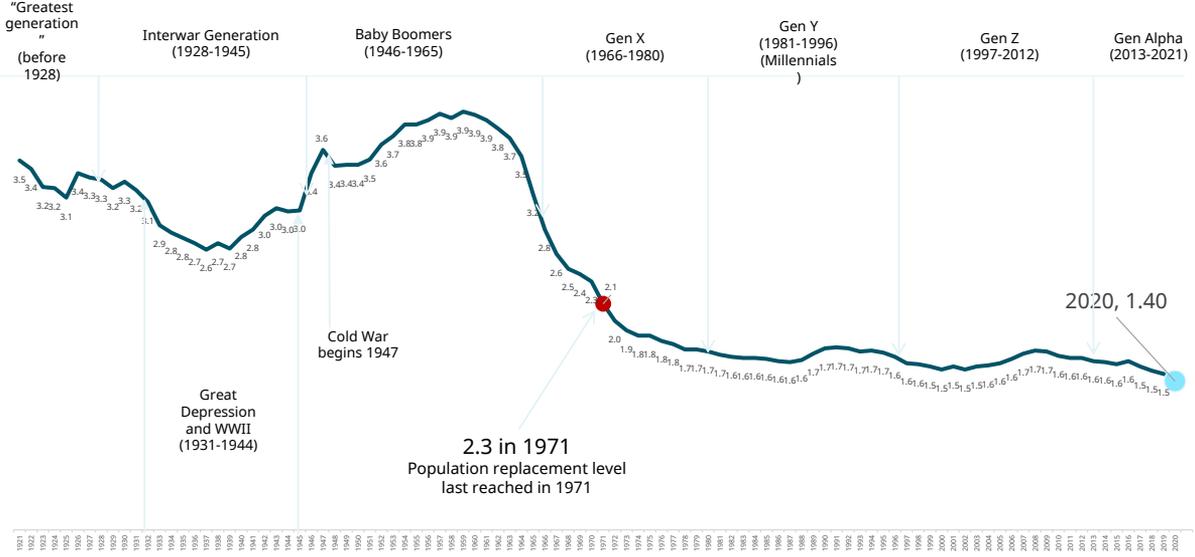


Greater Vancouver BY MUNICIPALITY TOTAL Admissions of Permanent Residents January 2015 – December 2024 Percent of total admissions to Greater Vancouver





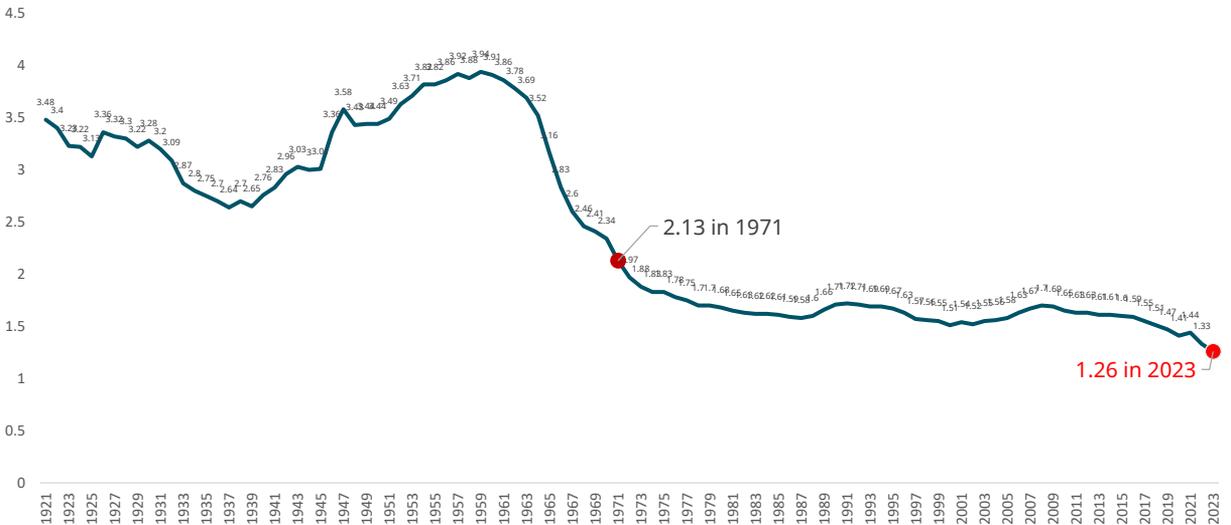
Canada's Total Fertility Rate



Data source: Statistics Canada

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91f0015m/91f0015m2024001-eng.htm>

Canada's Total Fertility Rate



Data source: Statistics Canada

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/91f0015m/91f0015m2024001-eng.htm>

Questions?

Thank you

