# Scotiabank.

**GLOBAL ECONOMICS** 

## **ECONOMIC COMMENTARY**

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# **Contributors**

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#### Chart 1

# Canada: Labour Force Survey - Population Growth



Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Statistics Canada.

## Chart 2

# Canada: Labour Force Survey Long-Term Population Growth



# Population in Canada: A Monthly Snapshot

## BACK TO SCHOOL FOR SOME, BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD FOR OTHERS?

Highlighting the estimates of the national population and components of growth, with a focus on the levels and flows of permanent and temporary residents. This report tracks admissions and issuances of individuals granted permission to permanently and temporarily reside in Canada, and whether these figures are aligning with federal government immigration targets.

# Recently-released quarterly population estimates are no surprise, given monthly trends witnessed throughout the year

- Lagged quarterly official national estimates recorded population growth of slightly over 250,000, translating to annualized quarterly growth and year-over-year growth of 2.5% and 3.0%, respectively.
- These robust patterns should come as no surprise, given solid monthly growth in the 15+ population numbers reported in the Labour Force Survey throughout the year, while September's data reported a 4% (S.A.A.R.) increase (the fourth highest recording this year), with the three-month moving average following suit and reaching its own record high in 2024.

# Potential study permit holders are feeling the effect of caps announced earlier in the year

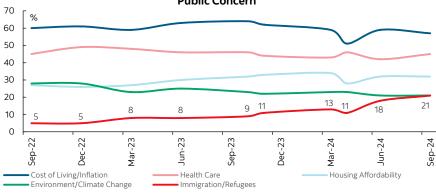
 Year-to-date issuances (Jan–Aug) were over 19% lower compared to the same point in 2023, while August issuances, historically the high point of the year, were 45% lower compared to permits issued in August 2023.

# Recent announcements on additional temporary resident restrictions, as well as further policy announcements anticipated in November, illustrate a government trying to keep up with its own goals

- Updated national population estimates brought with it an update on the total number of non-permanent residents in Canada, with the figure now reaching just over 3 million, an increase of 4.1% versus last quarter.
- More specifically, Canada's non-permanent resident stock as a share of the total population is now approximately 7.3%, straying further from the federal government's target of 5% by 2027, while continuing its post-COVID growth trend.
- As Canada's population growth essentially relies entirely on immigration, drastic
  measures and policy re-evaluations would now be needed to meet their target. Given
  the remaining timeframe, questions on how to reach their target may need to pivot to
  whether their targets are even a realistic possibility at this point.

## **Featured Chart**

# Additional Immigration Policy Announcements Have Coincided With Growing Public Concern



\*Top issues facing Canada (top five current issues). Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Angus Reid Institute.

			Canada					
Labour Force Survey Population Estimates, Monthly								
Labour Force Survey	Level, SA	Growth vs. Prev. Month	Growth vs. Sep 2023	M/M, SAAR (%)	3-Mo. Moving Average, SAAR (%)	15+ Growth, 3-MMA: 2019-Pres. (%)		
Sep 2024 15 Years and Over	33,892,300	110,000	1,176,000	4.0	4.0			
Labour Force	22,010,500	15,900	543,100	0.9	1.6			
National Population Estimates, Quarterly								
Population Estimates	Level, NSA	Growth vs. Prev. Quarter	Q/Q, ann.	<u>[%)</u>	Change vs. Prev. Year (%)	Growth: 2019-Pres (% y/y)		
Jul 1, 2024 <b>Total</b>	41,288,599	250,229	2.5		3.0			
Components of Population Growth	<u>Level</u>	Difference vs. Pr	ev. Quarter	<u>Diffe</u>	rence vs. Prev. Year (%)	Growth: 2019-Pres. (Persons)		
Jul 2024 Net International Migration	240,303	-19,01	3		-26.5			
of which Permanent Residents	134,138	12,40	5		13.7			
Net Non-Permanent Residents	117,836	-36,64			-46.5			
NPR Inflows	265,243	-24,60			-13.6			
NPR Outflows	147,407	12,04			69.8			
Net Emigration	11,671	-5,229			3.0			
Natural Increase	9,926	-5,223	9		5.0			
Total	250,229	-3,785	5		-25.2			
		Non-Permanen	t Resident Stock Est	imates, Quar	terly	<u> </u>		
Stock	Level	Difference	vs. Previous Quarter (%)		Share of Population (%)	Stock: Sep. 2021-Pres. (Persons)		
Jul 2024	1 027 524		2.0		2.5			
Study Permit Holders	1,037,534	2.0			3.4			
Work Permit Holders	1,400,843	4.2						
Other Non-Permanent Resident Types	563,713		7.8		1.4			
Total	3,002,090		4.1		7.3			
		ì	ermanent Residents	•		1		
Admissions Aug 2024	<u>Level</u>	Difference vs. Prev. Year (%)	YTD Admiss	ions	YTD Difference vs. 2023 (%)	Issuances: 2019-Pres. (Persons)		
Other Admission Categories	17,145	50.1	150,670		4.3			
Study Permit	2,400	1.7	19,650		1.5			
International Mobility Program	13,265	-4.9	114,115		0.7			
Temporary Foreign Worker Program	1,265	42.9	9,720		21.2			
Post Graduate Work Permit Program	5,075	-21.7	48,720		-10.0			
Total, Major Streams	39,150	11.6	342,875	<u> </u>	1.1			
	IRCC Total (I	Major Streams) PR Admi	issions as a Share of	The 2024 Fed	leral Government Target			
			71%					
		Issuances of Temp	orary Resident Pern	nits Monthly	- IRCC			
New Issuances	Level	YTD Issua			Difference vs. 2023 (%)	Issuances: 2019 - Pres. (Persons)		
Aug 2024	<u> </u>	11013300		110	5c. circe 13. 2023 (70)	.334411663. 2013 1163. (1 6130113)		
Study Permit Holders	97,610	379,880			-19.3	_^		
Work Permit Holders	62,155	663,475			-0.2			
of which International Mobility Program	48,445	524 520			0.5			
Temporary Foreign Worker Program		524,520 138,955			-2.5			
Temporary Foreign Worker Program  Total, Major Streams	13,710 159,765	1,043,3			-2.5 -8.1			
Express Entry System (October 10, 2024	· ·	1						
	II - Franch   angua	ge Proficiency (v 1) P.	ank Required to be Invite	od to Apply 100	O or Above CRS Score of L	owest-Ranked Candidate Invited: 444		

Table 1: Population and Immigration - Summary		
Labour Force Survey Estimates, Monthly  STATCAN Table 14-10-0287-02	Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey provides monthly reports on the number of workingage individuals in Canada, as well as the total numbers of individuals which comprise the labour force and the changes in these levels. While the LFS does not explicitly report on the components of labour force growth, it is a good early indicator of immigration flows given their dominance in population trends.	
National Population Estimates, Quarterly	National population estimates measure all persons (citizens, permanent and non-permanent residents) living in Canada in the observed time period, reported on a quarterly and annual basis.	
	The population growth between the most current period vs. the previous is comprised of net international migration levels (the arrival/admission of new permanent residents and non-permanent residents, minus non permanent residents and persons exiting the country and severing residential ties with Canada), plus the national natural increase.	
STATCAN Table: 17-10-0009-01	The current national population estimate is reported as of January 1, 2024 by Statistics Canada, with components of population growth reported as of December 31, 2023.	
Non-Permanent Resident Stock Estimates, Quarterly	This dataset reports on the population estimates of non-permanent residents in the country and the components of this group (i.e. work and study permit holders).	
	Non-permanent resident stock is reported by Statistics Canada, with updates published on a quarterly basis.	
STATCAN Table 17-10-0121-01	The government has acknowledged there are about 300,000-600,000 undocumented residents in the country, but there are not yet official numbers.	
Admissions of Permanent Residents, Monthly (IRCC)	Reports the number of individuals transitioning from temporary resident to permanent resident status. Those with existing study permits, or under the International Mobility Program (IMP), Temporary Foreign Work Program (TFWP), or Post Graduate Work Program (PGWP) are persons already residing in Canada at the time they are granted PR status. Other Admission Categories represents the remaining individuals granted PR status through federal and provincial economic, sponsorship and refugee programs and are most often new arrivals to Canada.	
Issuances of Temporary Resident Permits, Monthly (IRCC)	Measures the issuances of temporary permits administered to study, work or claim asylum in Canada. Despite now being granted permission to move to Canada, these persons may not have arrived at the time their permit was issued. While these individuals who have not yet entered would not be included in non-permanent resident stock estimates, they are indicative of future inflows.	
Express Entry System	The most recent Express Entry System round type, date, number of invitations issued and Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) score of the lowest-ranked candidate invited will be reflected in this monthly report at the time of publication. Top candidates per round are invited to apply for permanent residence approximately every 2 weeks, with the number of invitations and CRS thresholds adjusting based on the type of invitation round held.	

Permanent Residents  In 2024, followed by 500,000 in 2025 and 2026.  Federal Immigration Target:  Non-Permanent Residents  In 2024, the federal government announced an approx. 360,000 limit on the number of study permits issued for the year. Additionally, the government intends to decrease the number of non-permanent residents as a share of the total population to 5.0% by 2027. federal government additionally announced measures targeting temporary foreign works low-wage positions. Starting September 26, certain LMIA applications for low-wage position census metropolitan areas with an unemployment rate of 6% or higher will not be proclin certain sectors, the current 20% cap on the proportion of low-wage positions is being reduced to 10% (in construction and healthcare sectors, this cap is being reduced to 20%)	able 2: Population and Immigration - Federal Immigration Targets				
Non-Permanent Residents  study permits issued for the year. Additionally, the government intends to decrease the number of non-permanent residents as a share of the total population to 5.0% by 2027. federal government additionally announced measures targeting temporary foreign works low-wage positions. Starting September 26, certain LMIA applications for low-wage position census metropolitan areas with an unemployment rate of 6% or higher will not be produced to 10% (in construction and healthcare sectors, this cap is being reduced to 20%).		In 2023, the federal government released plans to welcome 485,000 new permanent residents in 2024, followed by 500,000 in 2025 and 2026.			
number of non-permanent residents as a share of the total population to 5.0% by 2027.  federal government additionally announced measures targeting temporary foreign works low-wage positions. Starting September 26, certain LMIA applications for low-wage position census metropolitan areas with an unemployment rate of 6% or higher will not be produced to 10% (in construction and healthcare sectors, this cap is being reduced to 20%	Federal Immigration Target:	In 2024, the federal government announced an approx. 360,000 limit on the number of new			
		number of non-permanent residents as a share of the total population to 5.0% by 2027. The federal government additionally announced measures targeting temporary foreign workers in low-wage positions. Starting September 26, certain LMIA applications for low-wage positions in census metropolitan areas with an unemployment rate of 6% or higher will not be processed. In certain sectors, the current 20% cap on the proportion of low-wage positions is being reduced to 10% (in construction and healthcare sectors, this cap is being reduced to 20%) and the maximum employment duration for low-wage positions is being reduced from 2 years to 1 year. It plans to announce a total non-permanent resident flow (arrival) target later in 2024.			

Table 3: Population and Immigration - Definitions			
Concept	Definition		
Net International Migration	The sum of immigrants and net non-permanent residents, minus net emigration.		
Permanent Residents	A person who has legally immigrated to Canada but is not yet a Canadian citizen.		
Non-Permanent Residents	A person from another country with a usual place of residence in Canada and who has a work/study permit or who has claimed refugee status.		
Net Non-Permanent Residents	Inflows minus outflows of non-permanent residents at a given period of time.		
Immigrant	A person who is a permanent resident or landed immigrant, granted the right to live in Canada permanently.		
Emigrant	A person who leaves Canada to live in another country and severs residential ties with Canada.		
Net Emigration	Emigrants minus returning emigrants.		
Natural increase	The difference between births and deaths over a given period of time.		
Labour Force	Persons 15 years of age and over who are employed or unemployed.		
International Mobility Program	Program which allows employers to hire foreign workers without a Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA).		
Temporary Foreign Worker Program	Program which allows employers to hire foreign workers to fill short-term labour and skill shortages when no Canadians are available to do the job. An LMIA is required to hire through this program.		
Post Graduate Work Permit Program	Program which allows foreign students who have graduated from an eligible post-secondary institution in Canada and applied to IRCC within 90 days of completing all degree or program requirements to legally work in Canada.		
Express Entry System	An IRCC online system used to manage immigration applications from skilled workers, broken down into three programs: Canadian Experience Class, Federal Skilled Worker Program and Federal Skilled Trades Program.		
Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS)	The points-based system used by IRCC to assess and score applicant profiles and rank them in the Express Entry Pool. The total CRS score is 1200, consisting of 600 core points and 600 additional points. Points are awarded through applicants meeting certain criteria as set out by IRCC.		
Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Government of Canada, IRCC, Statistics Canada.			

Chart 3 Canada: Monthly Total PR Admissions, **Major Streams** 



Chart 4

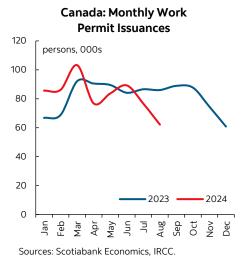


Chart 5

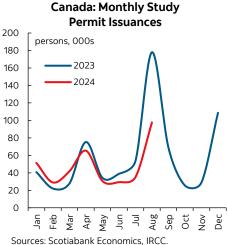


Chart 6 **Intended Destination of New Work** Permit Holders - Aug 2024

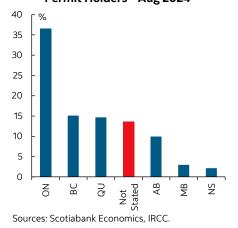


Chart 7

**Intended Destination of New Study** Permit Holders - Aug 2024

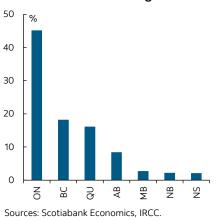
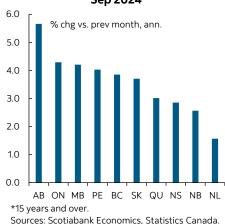


Chart 8





Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Statistics Canada.

Chart 9

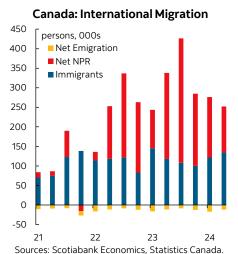
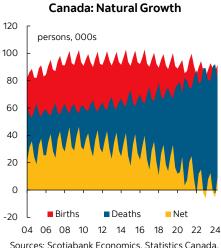


Chart 10



Sources: Scotiabank Economics, Statistics Canada.

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