

Travel between Canada and other countries, July 2022

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Friday, September 23, 2022

Highlights

In July, while the number of international arrivals to Canada continued to increase, it remained below 2019 levels, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Residents of overseas countries made almost 10 times more trips to Canada in July 2022 compared with the same month in 2021, over half (56.6%) of the trips taken in July 2019.

Likewise, US residents took nearly 2.2 million trips to Canada in July 2022. This was over 11 times the number of trips taken in July 2021 and represented just over three-fifths (60.7%) of the trips in July 2019.

Canadian residents returned from over 3.3 million trips in July 2022, over six times more trips compared with July 2021 and reaching 63.9% of the July 2019 pre-pandemic level.

For more current estimates of international arrivals into Canada, please see the "[Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada](#)," for the August reference month.

Border restrictions and capacity pressures

Travellers arriving in Canada, regardless of citizenship, are required to be fully vaccinated, while those who are not fully vaccinated are subject to a COVID-19 test upon arrival. Random mandatory COVID-19 testing for fully vaccinated travellers—initially paused on June 11, 2022 at all Canadian airports—resumed on July 19 for those arriving in Canada by air to the four major airports: Vancouver, Calgary, Montréal, and Toronto.

As air travel started to approach its pre-pandemic level, employment in the travel industry continued to lag. This has contributed to flight cancellations, long security queues and lost luggage, impacting major airports the most. The current labour shortage is being felt across airport-related occupations including pilots, flight attendants, security screeners, and baggage handlers.

Overseas visitors continue to increase

In July, 621,300 overseas residents arrived in Canada, up from the 63,700 such arrivals in July 2021. This is more than half (56.6%) of the overseas residents who arrived in Canada in July 2019, before the pandemic.

The number of visitors from major markets continued to increase in July. Visitors from Europe—increasing from 28,000 in July 2021 to 371,200 in July 2022—appear to be recovering faster than those from Asia, increasing from 21,500 to 106,200 over the same period.

More US-resident trips to Canada

In July, US residents made nearly 2.2 million trips to Canada, over 11 times as many trips as in July 2021 (194,800) and just over three-fifths (60.7%) of the trips taken during the same month in 2019.

Of the total arrivals in July 2022, 1.3 million were by automobile, with 35.1% being same-day returns (470,000). This was an increase from the 155,200 total arrivals by automobile in July 2021, and over half (55.8%) of such arrivals recorded in July 2019, before the pandemic.



Canadian travel to the United States increases

Canadian residents returned from nearly 2.6 million trips to the United States in July, almost seven times the number recorded in July 2021 (393,800), and 60.1% of the pre-pandemic level from July 2019.

Of the total returning Canadian trips, 2.0 million were by automobile in July 2022, with over half (53.3%) being same-day trips.

The number of Canadian residents returning by air from the United States was 503,600 in July, up from 93,200 in July 2021 and represented over three-quarters (76.0%) of the level recorded in the same month in 2019, before the pandemic.

More Canadians travel overseas

In July, 720,800 Canadian residents returned from visiting overseas, rising sharply from July 2021 (141,300). Reaching over four-fifths (82.9%) of the pre-pandemic level of such trips and representing the highest level of overseas travel recovery to date.

Table 1
Travel between Canada and other countries – Not seasonally adjusted

	July 2021	June 2022	July 2022	July 2021 to July 2022
	thousands			% change ¹
International trips to Canada	794	4,746	6,126	672.0
Trips to Canada by international visitors	258	2,189	2,815	989.1
US residents entering Canada ²	195	1,725	2,194	...
Air	37	489	544	...
Automobile ^{3,4}	155	989	1,339	762.8
Same-day	82	376	470	471.6
One or more nights	73	614	869	...
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	3	246	311	...
Overseas residents entering Canada ²	64	464	621	875.7
Air	58	401	513	787.6
Other modes ²	6	63	108	...
Canadian residents returning from trips abroad	535	2,558	3,311	518.8
Canadian residents returning from the United States ^{2,5}	394	1,986	2,590	557.8
Air	93	448	504	440.3
Automobile ^{3,4}	293	1,487	2,009	585.8
Same-day	219	943	1,070	387.6
One or more nights	73	544	939	...
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	8	50	78	914.9
Canadian residents returning from overseas ^{2,5}	141	572	721	410.1
Air	141	570	718	408.1
Top overseas markets				
United Kingdom	7	74	112	...
China	3	7	8	134.2
France	7	43	77	...
Mexico	3	38	47	...
Germany	3	32	47	...
Australia	0	21	23	...
India	4	35	28	687.8
South Korea	1	9	14	...
Japan	1	5	7	...
Brazil	0	9	11	...

... not applicable

1. Percentage change is based on unrounded data.

2. As of January 2022, one passenger from each bus record is considered a crew member. Prior to 2022, there were no crew from bus travellers.

3. As of April 2022, all ferry travellers are included in the water mode, in order to align with United Nations World Tourism Organization recommendations. Prior to 2022, most of these travellers were included in the land mode as either pedestrian or automobile travellers (the only exception was Fortune, in Newfoundland and Labrador).

4. As of January 2022, the maximum number of passengers allowed in an automobile before it is considered a bus is 8, in order to align with United Nations World Tourism Organization recommendations. Prior to 2022, the maximum was 10.

5. As of January 2022, non-resident travellers with a trip duration of 365 days or more are considered as "other travellers" (not as visitors). Prior to 2022, they were reclassified as Canadian-resident visitors.

Source(s): Tables [24-10-0050-01](#) and [24-10-0053-01](#).

Note to readers

Statistics Canada's Frontier Counts program uses Canada Border Services Agency administrative data gathered from all international travellers who have been cleared for entry or re-entry into Canada.

Starting with the [January 2022 release](#), all estimates, including those in Table 1, are based on unadjusted counts only. Seasonally adjusted data continue to be available online in tables [24-10-0051-01](#) and [24-10-0054-01](#).

Seasonally adjusted data from January 2021 to June 2022 have been revised. No revisions were made to data that were not seasonally adjusted.

Elements of Statistics Canada's Frontier Counts program were modified in January 2022. For example, travellers arriving by commercial air with a trip duration of a year or more and workers are now excluded from the visitor counts. Although these changes should not have a significant impact on total estimates, readers are encouraged to review the concepts, definitions, data sources and methods for [Frontier Counts](#), as well as the explanatory notes for the online tables, especially when making historical comparisons and examining specific regions.

Overseas countries refer to countries other than Canada or the United States.

A **Canadian resident visitor** is a Canadian resident traveller whose trip purpose outside Canada is related to tourism and whose trip duration is less than one year.

A **non-resident visitor** is a traveller to Canada whose country of residence is not Canada, whose trip purpose is related to tourism and whose trip duration is less than one year.

Available tables: [24-10-0050-01](#) to [24-10-0055-01](#) .

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5005](#).

The July 2022 issue of *International Travel: Advance Information* ([66-001-P](#)) is now available.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).