

Travel between Canada and other countries, August 2022

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Monday, October 24, 2022

Highlights

In August, while the number of international arrivals to Canada continued to increase year over year, the pace of recovery has slowed somewhat from July.

Residents of overseas countries made six times more trips to Canada in August compared with the same month in 2021, over half (51.6%) of the trips taken in August 2019.

Likewise, US residents took nearly 2.0 million trips to Canada in August 2022. This was almost four times the number of trips taken in August 2021 and represented over half (55.4%) of the trips in August 2019.

Canadian residents returned from over 3.7 million trips abroad in August 2022, more than four times such trips taken in August 2021 and reaching 63.4% of the level in August 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Travel recovery faces new challenges

International travel has steadily increased since August 2021, with the exception of a temporary pause in January 2022 due to the Omicron variant and renewed COVID-19 restrictions. In fact, the pace of recovery in international travel is now more subject to capacity constraints than to public health restrictions.

In August, the country's major airports continued to face challenges with increasing passenger counts and various staff shortages. The situation forced several of the largest passenger airlines to curtail some services during this last month of the busy summer travel season.

Recovery of overseas visitors slows

In August, 546,600 overseas residents arrived in Canada, up from the 91,300 such arrivals in August 2021. While this is more than half (51.6%) of the overseas residents who arrived in Canada in August 2019, before the pandemic, it is lower than the 56.6% recovery posted in July 2022.

The 344,900 arrivals from Europe (up from 42,500 in August 2021) remained the largest segment of overseas residents arriving in Canada in August. The 81,500 arrivals from the Americas (excluding US residents) slightly outnumbered the 81,000 arrivals from Asia, typically a much larger segment.

US-resident trips to Canada

In August, US residents made nearly 2.0 million trips to Canada, almost four times as many trips as in August 2021 (509,700) and over half (55.4%) of the trips taken during the same month in 2019. However, this was 224,800 fewer trips by US residents than in July 2022.

Of the total arrivals in August 2022, 1.2 million were by automobile with 36.3% being same-day returns (438,600). This was an increase from the 412,200 total arrivals by automobile in August 2021 and nearly half (49.8%) of such arrivals recorded in August 2019, before the pandemic.



More Canadians travel to the United States

Canadian residents returned from nearly 3.0 million trips to the United States in August, almost six times the number recorded in August 2021 (506,100) and 62.5% of the level in August 2019, before the pandemic. Of this total, 2.2 million residents were by automobile in August 2022, with over half (51.1%) being same-day trips.

The number of Canadian residents returning by air from the United States was 685,000 in August, up from 170,000 in August 2021 and which represented 92.7% of the trips recorded in the same month in 2019, before the pandemic.

On a monthly basis, about 400,000 more Canadians returned from the United States in August compared with July.

Canadians travelling overseas

In August, 752,900 Canadian residents returned from visiting overseas, more than doubling from the same month in 2021 (341,700).

On a monthly basis from July, 32,000 more Canadians returned from visiting overseas in August. While this represents over two-thirds (67.3%) of the number from pre-pandemic August 2019, it was down from the 82.9% recovery reached in July.

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

	August 2021	July 2022	August 2022	August 2021 to August 2022
	thousands			% change ¹
International trips to Canada	1,449	6,126	6,249	331.3
Trips to Canada by international visitors	601	2,815	2,515	318.6
US residents entering Canada ²	510	2,194	1,969	286.3
Air	91	544	453	398.5
Automobile ^{3,4}	412	1,339	1,209	193.2
Same-day	128	470	439	242.3
One or more nights	284	869	770	171.1
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	7	311	307	...
Overseas residents entering Canada ²	91	621	547	498.6
Air	85	513	424	397.4
Other modes ²	6	108	123	...
Canadian residents returning from trips abroad	848	3,311	3,734	340.4
Canadian residents returning from the United States ^{2,5}	506	2,590	2,981	489.0
Air	170	504	685	302.9
Automobile ^{3,4}	328	2,009	2,206	571.7
Same-day	230	1,070	1,127	390.3
One or more nights	99	939	1,080	993.8
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	8	78	90	...
Canadian residents returning from overseas ^{2,5}	342	721	753	120.3
Air	342	718	749	119.1
Top overseas markets				
United Kingdom	9	112	100	997.6
China	8	8	7	-8.9
France	11	77	74	596.2
Mexico	4	47	40	938.4
Germany	6	47	57	902.8
Australia	0	23	22	...
India	7	28	19	172.5
South Korea	1	14	10	707.6
Japan	2	7	9	429.2
Brazil	1	11	9	...

... 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 May 2022 to July 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 August 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).