

Travel between Canada and other countries, March 2023

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Highlights

In March 2023, the overall number of non-resident visitors to Canada and returning Canadian residents remained at over three-quarters (77.0%) of the level seen in March 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March 2023, residents of overseas countries took 281,400 trips to Canada, and US residents took 1.1 million trips to Canada. Canadian residents returned from 4.2 million trips abroad.

To further explore current and historical data in an interactive format, please visit the [Frontier Counts: Interactive Dashboard](#).

Travel requirements and advisories

On January 5, 2023, the Government of Canada implemented the requirement of a negative COVID-19 test for travellers two years of age and older arriving from the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong or Macao. This requirement was removed on March 17.

Overseas visitors to Canada

In March 2023, 281,400 overseas residents arrived in Canada, nearly doubling the number of arrivals in March 2022 (148,900) and reaching over four-fifths (81.3%) of that during the same month in 2019, before the pandemic.

Over two-fifths (114,700) of overseas visitors arrived from Europe in March 2023, up from 68,800 in March 2022 and reaching four-fifths (83.7%) of the level seen in March 2019. In March 2023, there were 72,400 overseas visitors from Asia, over half (58.5%) of the number of arrivals in March 2019.

US-resident trips to Canada

In March 2023, US residents took 1.1 million trips to Canada, almost two and a half times those taken in March 2022 (465,200) and three-quarters (74.4%) of those taken during the same month in 2019.

Of the total US arrivals in March 2023, 779,400 were by automobile and just over half (52.6%) of these were same-day returns. The total number of arrivals by automobile was two and a half times that observed in March 2022 (310,300) and reached over three-quarters (76.3%) of that in March 2019.

Canadian-resident trips to the United States

Canadian residents returned from 3.3 million trips to the United States in March 2023, two and a half times the number taken in March 2022 (1.3 million) and 82.6% of the level from the same month in 2019.

Of the total return trips by Canadian residents in March 2023, 2.0 million trips were by automobile, almost two-thirds (61.1%) of which were same-day. The number of return trips by air was 1.3 million, more than double the 549,300 such trips in March 2022 and 14.0% higher than the same month in 2019. This was the seventh consecutive month it exceeded the pre-pandemic level since September 2022.



Canadian residents travelling overseas

In March 2023, Canadian residents took 915,200 return trips overseas. This was a 33.6% increase from the same month in 2022 and corresponded to almost two-thirds (63.3%) of such trips observed in March 2019, before the pandemic.

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

	March 2022	February 2023	March 2023	March 2022 to March 2023
	thousands			% change ¹
International trips to Canada	2,637	4,482	5,589	112.0
Trips to Canada by international visitors	614	1,201	1,365	122.3
US residents entering Canada ²	465	945	1,084	133.0
Air	145	220	271	86.5
Automobile ^{3,4}	310	694	779	151.2
Same-day	130	357	410	214.2
One or more nights	180	338	370	105.6
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	10	31	33	249.9
Overseas residents entering Canada ²	149	256	281	88.9
Air	138	229	249	79.9
Other modes ²	10	27	32	208.8
Top overseas markets				
United Kingdom	22	32	34	57.9
China	3	9	11	226.0
France	15	36	24	62.1
Mexico	21	34	40	88.5
Germany	7	12	13	84.9
Australia	4	12	11	152.0
India	11	15	20	72.0
South Korea	2	6	5	179.7
Japan	1	6	7	493.2
Brazil	3	5	10	195.9
Canadian residents returning from trips abroad	2,023	3,281	4,224	108.8
Canadian residents returning from the United States ^{2,5}	1,338	2,506	3,309	147.3
Air	549	1,025	1,297	136.1
Automobile ^{3,4}	776	1,449	1,973	154.3
Same-day	370	995	1,204	225.1
One or more nights	405	454	768	89.6
Other modes ^{2,3,4}	13	32	39	205.2
Canadian residents returning from overseas ^{2,5}	685	775	915	33.6
Air	685	773	915	33.6

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 was 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 eight 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

Complete Frontier Counts data are temporarily unavailable. All published data for March 2023 in tables 24-10-0050-01, 24-10-0051-01, 24-10-0053-01, 24-10-0054-01 and 24-10-0055-01 are preliminary estimates. These tables will be revised during a subsequent release when all March 2023 data become available.

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 for January 2022 to February 2023 have been revised. No revisions were made to data that were not seasonally adjusted.

For more current estimates of international arrivals to Canada, please see the "[Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada](#)" for the April 2023 reference month.

Readers are encouraged to review the concepts, definitions, data sources, methods and summary of changes for [Frontier Counts](#), as well as explanatory notes for 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](#).

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).