



# Overview of Canadian citizenship in 2021

In Canada, approximately 9 in 10 people are Canadian citizens, either by birth or by naturalization



Canadian citizenship is associated with certain rights and responsibilities, such as voting, holding a Canadian passport, and serving on a jury.



Canadian citizen by birth



Canadian citizen by naturalization



Not a Canadian citizen

Canadian citizens by descent—those born abroad to parents who are Canadian citizens—represent a relatively small population.

Number of Canadian citizens by descent in 2021:

**322,530**



The United States and United Kingdom are the top countries of birth of Canadian citizens by descent.

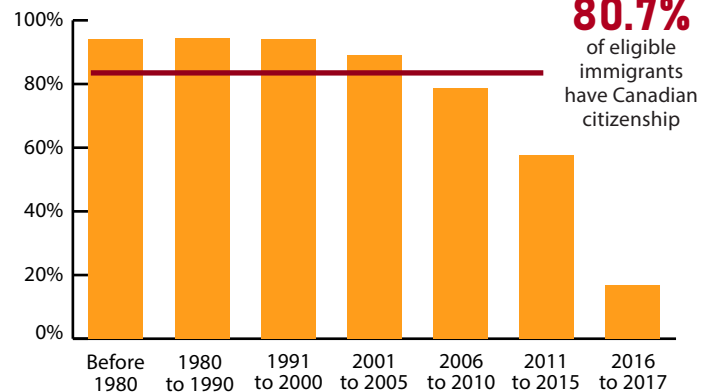
More than 6 million immigrants reported having Canadian citizenship by naturalization, representing 80.7% of all immigrants admitted to Canada at least three years before the 2021 Census



Immigrants who have been living in Canada longer are more likely to be Canadian citizens.



## NATURALIZATION RATE OF IMMIGRANTS IN CANADA, BY PERIOD OF IMMIGRATION, 2021



## SINCE 1977, CANADA HAS RECOGNIZED MULTIPLE CITIZENSHIPS



In 2021, more than **3.7 million** Canadian citizens reported having more than one citizenship. The proportion was higher among Canadian citizens by naturalization (**44.7%**) than Canadian citizens by birth (**3.7%**).

### MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED MULTIPLE CITIZENSHIPS

Canadian citizens by birth



UNITED STATES



UNITED KINGDOM

Canadian citizens by naturalization



UNITED KINGDOM



PAKISTAN

**Note:** Naturalization is the process by which immigrants acquire Canadian citizenship. To be eligible, landed immigrants (permanent residents) generally must meet certain criteria, such as a residency requirement and demonstrating knowledge of Canada and of English or French.

**Source:** Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021.

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