

40 Million and

Counting

Article page 5

Questions page 7

Graph page 10

Infographics page 11

Quiz page 14

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WHAT IN THE WORLD?

Level 1, 2023/2024: Issue 1

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Hay'sxw'qa!

LesPlan is grateful to the Lkwungen Peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, on whose unceded land we now live, and do our work.

We welcome your comments and appreciate your suggestions. Please contact us at any time.

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LesPlan Educational Services Ltd. aims to help teachers develop students' engagement in, understanding of, and ability to critically assess current issues and events by providing quality, up-to-date, affordable, ready-to-use resources appropriate for use across the curriculum.





I have had many parents comment to me about how great they think What in the World? is, and they look forward to each month's issue coming home... This is a great resource for a small country school to explore the global issues that affect us all.

> K. Camelon, Grade 7/8 teacher Admaston, ON



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BEFORE READING

- 1. Without revealing the topic of the article, or the subtitle, write the main title on the board: **40 Million and Counting.**
- 2. In pairs, have students predict what this article might be about. (*E.g.*, an amount of money, a world record of some sort, the number of cars on the road, the population of a city or country, etc.) Share ideas as a class.
- 3. Reveal the subtitle of the article: **Canada Hits a New Population Milestone.** You may wish to clarify the meaning of "and counting" (*it continues to grow*) and "milestone" (*reaching a specific stage or level of development*).
- 4. In small groups, have students discuss the following two topics:
- ways that populations increase (e.g. higher birth rates; lower death rates; immigration, including refugees, students, work-related immigration, marriage with someone from another country, adoption from another country; etc.);
- ways that populations decrease (e.g., higher death rates, lower birth rates, epidemics, war, people emigrating to other countries, etc.).
- 5. Share ideas as a class. Then, ask students to predict the main reason for recent population growth in Canada.
- 6. Finally, invite students to set a purpose for reading the article, referring to the resource page **Setting A Purpose Before Reading** as needed.







On June 16, our country hit a major landmark. **Statistics Canada** says that was when the nation's population reached 40 million.

"This is an exciting milestone for Canada," said Chief Statistician Anil Arora. "It is a strong signal that Canada remains a dynamic and welcoming country."

THE BIGGER PICTURE

The 40-million figure tells a bigger tale, too.

Canada's population is expanding faster than it has in decades. The nation's annual growth rate is 2.7 percent. That's the highest it's been since 1957. As a result, Canada is the fastest-growing **G7** country. If the nation keeps growing at this

CANADA'S "POPULATION CLOCK"

How could Statistics Canada be so certain that the population hit 40 million on June 16? Did someone welcome the newest immigrant personally, or see the baby born who ushered in this landmark?

Not exactly. The number is just a highly educated guess. The federal government uses a "population clock" – a **statistical model** that estimates the current population. This model is based on birth, death, and immigration trends. The model also gauges the number of residents in every province and territory. As of mid-August, the population was estimated to be 40,253,321 (an increase of over 253,000 since June 16).

rate, the population could hit 50 million in just 20 years.

WE HELP OTHERS . . .

How to explain this massive population surge? It comes down to one word: **immigration**. In 2022 alone, Canada grew by over one million people. About 96 percent of this increase was due to people moving to Canada

from other nations. That's more than twice the 430,000 **permanent residents** the federal government was expecting.

The numbers increased because Canada took in more **refugees** than planned. Many came from war-torn nations like Ukraine, Syria, and Afghanistan. Others came from Turkey and Syria

DEFINITIONS

G7 (THE GROUP OF SEVEN NATIONS): an organization of the world's seven most advanced economies: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. IMMIGRATION: the process of coming to live permanently in a different country from the one you were born in PERMANENT RESIDENT: someone who has immigrated to Canada but who hasn't yet become a full citizen

REFUGEE: a person forced to leave their country because there is a war or for political, religious, or social reasons **STATISTICAL MODEL**: a mathematical process that attempts to describe and predict the population by taking samples of it **STATISTICS CANADA**: a federal government agency that produces statistics to help better understand Canada and its population, resources, economy, society, and culture



after a huge earthquake last February destroyed homes in these nations.

Yet this **influx** of immigrants is just part of an ongoing trend. Some 40 percent of Canadian residents are already immigrants or children of immigrants. And in 20 years, immigrants will make up the majority of Canada's population.

...AND THEY HELP US

Canadians have **humanitarian** reasons for accepting large numbers of immigrants. But we're also being practical.

Canada's current population is aging. In 1980, about six people were working for every retired person. By 2030, the ratio will be three to one. Meanwhile, the nation's birth rate has dropped substantially.

That means we risk not being able to replace the people leaving our **labour force**. With fewer workers, critical public services might suffer. Why? To fund schools, hospitals, and other **infrastructure**, the government relies heavily on the **income tax** that employed people pay.

As well, skilled newcomers fill our acute **labour shortages** in many fields, such as health care.

Canada is hoping immigration will help offset these problems. Many immigrants are young, so they'll pay into the public system for years to help support services. They're ambitious, too. The businesses they start and the purchases they make contribute to our **Gross Domestic Product** (GDP). Plus, they're often willing to relocate to small communities that benefit from their expertise.

THE DOWNSIDE

Yet some observers have concerns about Canada's growing population. They point to housing as a major issue. Homes now sell for over \$700,000 on average across the country. That's too costly for many people already living here. And there isn't enough housing for everybody at any price.

Another worry? At present, one in five Canadians doesn't have a family doctor. This shortage of medical care could worsen as the population ages and grows. What if the healthcare system stretches to the breaking point?

That could put people at risk. Roads could see more cars, too, adding to pollution. Schools could become overcrowded. Public transit could struggle to handle more passengers.

"If we want to do more immigration, fine, but let's have a suite of policies... that increase infrastructure investment for transit, housing, health care, [and] schools," said one expert.

Others are looking at the impact Canada's growth spurt is having on our present high level of **inflation**. Immigrants' need for consumer goods has pushed up demand, causing a shortage of these items. When demand exceeds supply, prices stay high.

REASONS TO CELEBRATE

So, there's a lot to navigate as our population grows. Yet many people believe it's worth pausing to mark this milestone.

"We are from far and wide, but united we are 40 million strong. There is no challenge we cannot overcome together," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said. "So let's celebrate each other, and let's celebrate as we continue to build this great country."

DEFINITIONS

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP): the total value of all the goods and services produced by a country in one year HUMANITARIAN: connected with helping people who are suffering and improving the conditions that they are living in INCOME TAX: the amount of tax that you pay to the government according to how much you earn

INFLATION: a fall in the value of money and a general increase in prices; the rate at which this happens
INFLUX: a lot of people, money, or things arriving somewhere
INFRASTRUCTURE: the systems that keep a country running smoothly: buildings, transport, water, and power
LABOUR FORCE: all the people who work in a country
LABOUR SHORTAGE: when there are more jobs than workers

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is Canada's population clock ?
2. Explain how this 'model' works.
3. What milestone did Canada's population reach in mid-June?
4. Describe the recent rate of population growth in Canada.
5. What is an immigrant ? Explain.
6. How many people moved to Canada last year?
7. What is a refugee ? Explain.
8. Canada welcomed a large number of refugees in 2022. Which countries did many come from?
9. Explain why Canada's labour force is shrinking.
10. List two reasons why the government is concerned about a decrease in the labour force.

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER THOUGHT

1. The article states that Canada grew by more than one million new immigrants in 2022, which makes it the fastest-growing member among G7 nations (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States). What reasons can you suggest to explain why the population is growing more quickly in Canada than in other G7 countries?
2. The article quotes Prime Minister Justin Trudeau: "We are from far and wide, but united we are 40 million strong – and there is no challenge we cannot overcome together. So let's celebrate each other, and let's celebrate as we continue to build this great country." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons to support your response.
3. Statistics Canada is a federal government agency that produces statistics about Canada's population, resources, economy, society, and culture. As you see it, why might it be important to track this type of data? Support your answer with examples.

QUESTIONS FOR ONLINE EXPLORATION

<i>Note</i> : The links below are listed at www.lesplan.com/links for easy access.
1. Visit Statistics Canada and learn more about Canada's 40-million population milestone and our country's growth over time: https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/subjects-start/population_and_demography/40-million
Make note of 2 interesting facts that stood out to you in this summary.
2. Watch this video about the growth of Canada's population since it became a country in 1867: https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/sc/video/canada-by-million
List 3 of the key moments that contributed to large growth spurts in Canada's population.
3. Check out Statistics Canada's real-time model population clock:
https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2018005-eng.htm
What did you notice? List two questions that you have about the data presented.

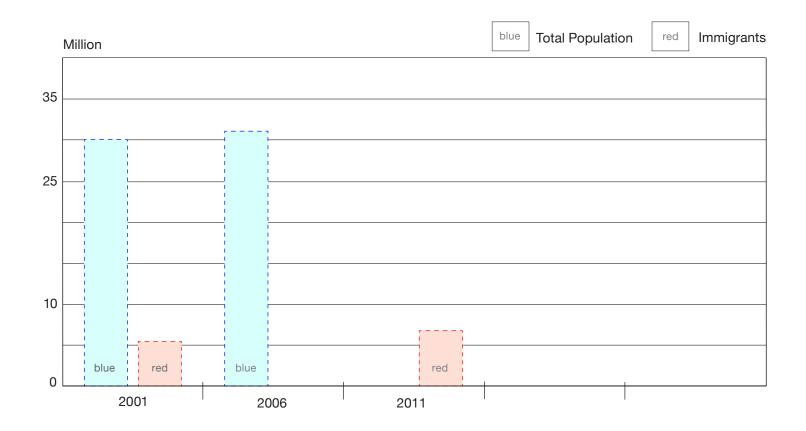
GRAPHING

- 1. Complete the table below to show:
 - a) the total population of Canada during the last five census years;
 - b) the total number of immigrants in Canada during the last five census years;
 - c) the percentage of immigrants compared to the total population.

The following source will help: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada_immigration_statistics

Census	2001	Census	2006	Census	2011	Census	2016	Census	2021
Population	30,007,094	Population		Population	33,476,688	Population		Population	36,991,981
Immigrants	5,448,480	Immigrants	6,186,950	Immigrants		Immigrants		Immigrants	
%	18.2%	%	19.6%	%	20.2%	%		%	

- 2. Plot a bar graph to show Canada's total population in each of the past five census counts. Shade each of these five columns blue.
- 3. Plot a column to show the total number of immigrants beside each blue column. Shade each new 'immigrant' column red.
- 4. Label your graph with a title.
- 5. Examine your graph. What observations can you make and what conclusions can you draw? Explain.



INFOGRAPHIC

Immigration: a path to a **stronger Canada**





Immigrants have been essential to Canada's post-pandemic economic recovery.



In 2021, **191,338** individuals transitioned from temporary to permanent residents.



Immigration accounts for nearly 100% of Canada's labour force growth, and will account for 100% of our population growth by 2032.



Canada's post-pandemic recovery has been among the strongest in the world, but more than 900,000 unfilled positions still remain across all sectors.



The 2023-2025 Immigration Levels Plan aims to welcome 465,000 permanent residents in 2023, 485,000 in 2024 and 500,000 in 2025.



The plan is focused on **spreading the benefits of immigration** to regions and communities across Canada.



By 2025, overall admissions will amount to nearly 1.3% of the Canadian population with 60%+ of admissions in the economic class.



Working to increase Francophone immigration to reach a target of **4.4%** of French-speaking immigrants outside Quebec by 2023.



Employers in communities across Canada will be supported to fill their critical labour needs.



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

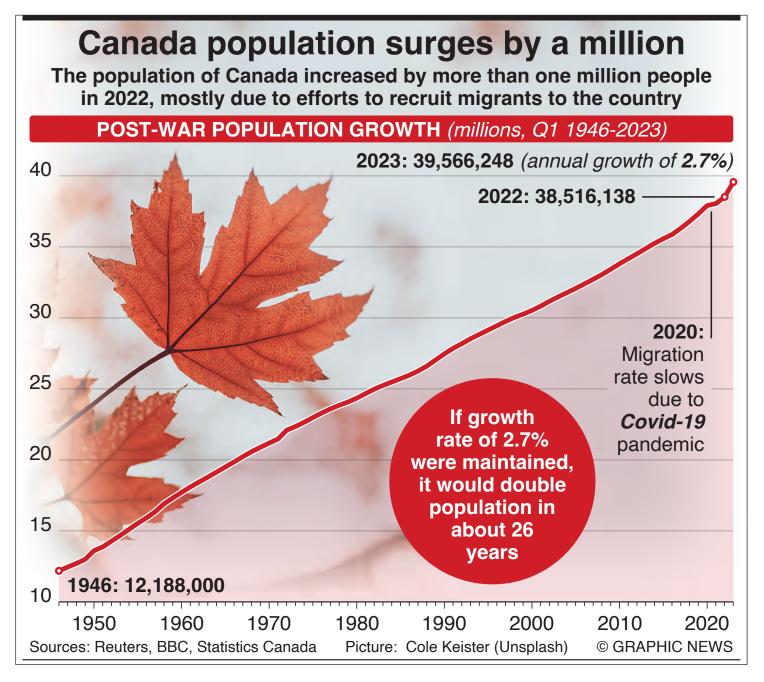
Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada



https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/infographics/immigration-path-stronger-canada.html

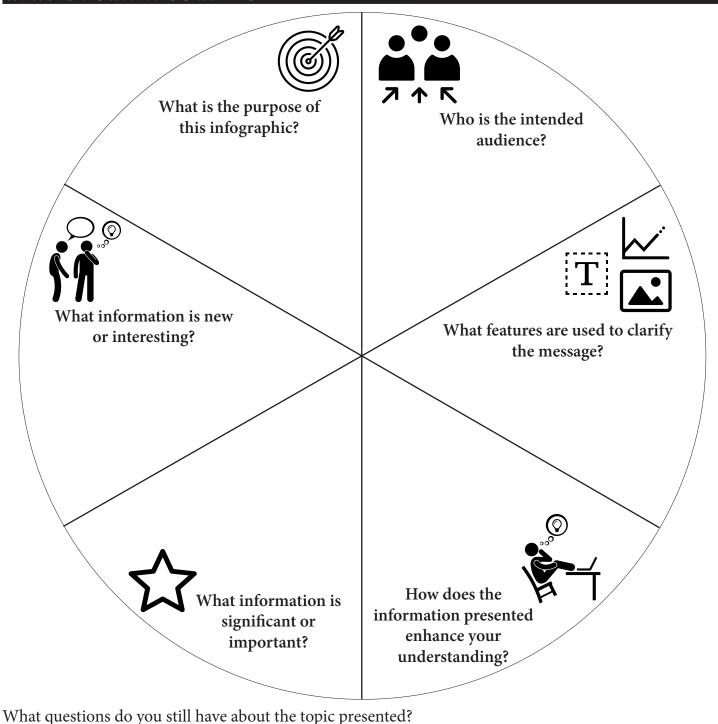
INFOGRAPHIC

LEVEL 1 · NO. 1



March 23, 2023 - The population of Canada increased by more than one million people in 2022, mostly due to efforts to recruit migrants to the country.

ANALYZING AN INFOGRAPHIC



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

A. W	rite the letter that corresponds to the bes	at answer on the line beside each	question:
	1. What is the main reason for Canaa) an aging populationc) an increasing birth rate	da's shrinking labour force? b) a large number of ref d) people moving to the	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e
	2. In 2022 about one million a) refugees c) immigrants	came to Canada. b) migrants d) tourists	
	3. By 2043 Canada's population is example a) 40 million c) 50 million	xpected to reach: b) 47 million d) 65 million	
	ark the statements T (True) or F (False). ort it on the line below. If a statement is 4. True or False? About 40 percent of	False, write the words that make	it true on the line below.
	5. True or False? GDP = Grand Dom	estic Product.	
	6. True or False? Canada recently accently accentrate accently accently accently accently accently accently accentrate accently accentrate accently accentrate accentra		ine who fled after a large
C. Fil	ll in the blanks to complete each sentence	ce.	
7	Canada produc	es data about Canada's populatio	n, resources, economy, etc
8. Ca	nada's annual population growth rate is h	nigher than any	country.
9. Ab	oout one in five Canadians don't have a fa	mily	
D. Re	espond to the following question in para	igraph form. (Use a separate she	et of paper if necessary.)
	as you see it, what is the biggest challenge ort your response.	related to Canada's growing pop	oulation? Give reasons to

There are a number of reasons we read, and setting a purpose for reading – knowing WHY we are reading – helps us to focus on important information and to better understand and remember what we read. It also helps us decide HOW we will read the text.

We don't read all texts for the same purposes or in the same way. For example, we read an instruction manual for a new Blu-ray player for a different reason than we read a book or a website. How we will read it – the strategies we use – will also differ. We are more likely to skim to find the information we need in a manual. Once we find what we need, we might read the instructions carefully to figure out what to do. Then, we stop reading, put the manual down, and carry out the steps. We may have to reread if we get confused or forget what to do.

This is a very different approach than the one we would use to read a book. When we read a book, we usually read cover-to-cover. We read carefully so we don't miss any details because we want to understand the whole story. Sometimes we make connections or create images in our minds as we read to help us better understand what we are reading. Depending on its length, we may put the book down before we finish reading it but we will start reading where we left off.

Good readers are flexible and responsive. This means that they match their reading strategies to their purpose for reading. What types of text do you read? Why do you read them? What strategies do you use to read each of these texts? The chart below is a summary of the main purposes for reading and what each entails.

Purpose for reading	What it looks like
For enjoyment	Usually student-selected.
	Allows students to choose a variety of genres and forms.
	Allows students to pursue what interests them while developing reading skills.
To experience something new	Students make connections between their personal experiences and those of people around the world.
To learn more about themselves and others	Students reflect on what they've read and express opinions and perspectives.
	Students develop a sense of their personal values and make sense of the world around them.
To gain information	Students use the features of informational texts to gather, analyse and apply what they've learned.
To understand issues	Students develop a sense of perspective.
	Students pose questions, acknowledge other points of view, critique the opinions presented and support opinions with evidence.
To appreciate writing	Students respond to text in ways other than written answers to apply what they've learned in new contexts.
To appreciate use of media to communicate	Students respond to a variety of media formats (e.g., infographics, political cartoons, videos, etc.) and react to how the format supports the meaning of the message.

^{*} Chart adapted from: A Guide to Effective Literacy Instruction, Grades 4-6, p. 11.

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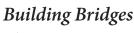
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Currents4Kids.com News4Youth.com

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- ✓ Links to relevant articles, resources, maps, photos and videos
- ✓ Extension activities

Product details: 40 issues. **One subscription** allows all teachers and students access from any Internet-connected device at any time. Available in English and in French. *Currents4Kids/Infos-Jeunes*: Grades 3 and up (1 reading level). *News4Youth/Infos-Ados*: Grades 5 and up (3 reading levels).





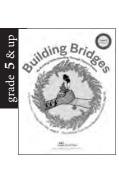
- ✓ **PDF/Word** resource
- ✓ Builds understanding of current events that impact Indigenous Peoples and all Canadians
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- ✓ Background information
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- ✓ Encourages a respectful, reflective, empathetic, and inquiring frame of mind

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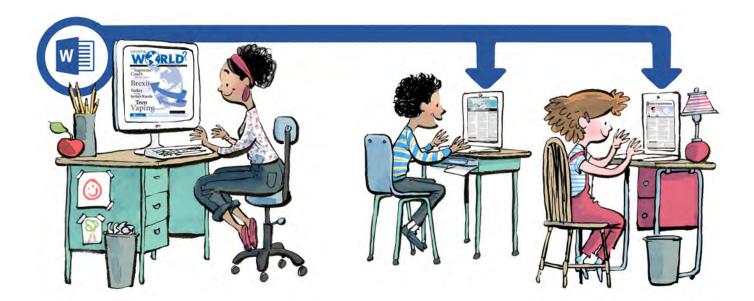


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- LibreOffice is a free alternate to Microsoft Office and offers the same functionality. It's easy to install and use. See: www.libreoffice.org

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B. Thibodeau, Saskatoon, SK

I have been using your product for seven years. There isn't a month that goes by that I don't get into challenging discussions with my students with the leads you provide and go in directions I could never imagine. Thank you for this terrific teaching aid!

D. Faerber, Pembroke, ON

Engaging, levelled articles, background information and original illustrations make the news interesting and easy to grasp. Accompanying questions and assignments provide multiple ways to examine the topics and enhance literacy and critical thinking.

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