

# Toronto Newcomer Strategy

2022 – 2026



# ➤ Toronto

Is home to more than 500,000 newcomers.

- top immigrant destination in Canada
- 200+ different ethnic origins, 140+ languages spoken
- 51.2% residents are foreign-born
- 27.5% of those born in CA have at least one parent foreign-born
- 40%+ are visible minorities





# ➤ Drives Economy & Culture

- Drives population, economic and labour force growth
- Slows population aging
- Fills labour market gaps
- Boosts international trade
- Creates jobs for others through entrepreneurship and self-employment
- Enriches our arts, culture, sports



# ➤ Drives Economy & Culture

Across Canada, immigrants represent:

- 25% of health care workers
- 34% of workers in scientific research
- 33% of business owners with paid staff (53% in food and beverage industry)
- 20% of sports coaches
- 29% of independent artists, writers and performers

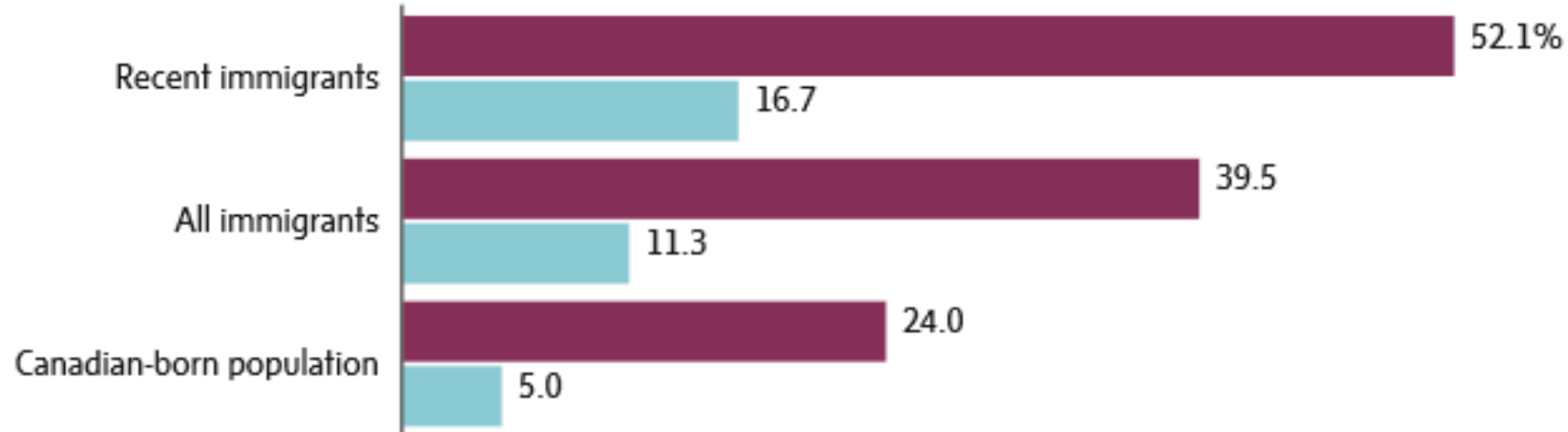


# ➤ Immigrants Bring Education and Skills

## Percentage of the Canadian population with selected degrees, 2016

People aged 25 to 64

● Bachelor's degree or higher   ● Master's degree or earned doctorate



- Note: Recent immigrants are those who first obtained permanent resident status between January 1, 2011 and May 10, 2016.
- Source: The Globe and Mail, November 29, 2017, Statistics Canada, 2016 Census.

# ➤ Barriers to Potential

- lack of affordable housing
- unemployment and underemployment
- access to services
- disproportionate COVID-19 impact
- policy shifts, differing objectives



# ➤ COVID-19 Impact

- Direct impact on newcomers:
  - higher rates of infection
  - greater vaccine hesitancy
  - more job loss, precarious working conditions
- Sharp drop in new Permanent Resident arrivals
- After record numbers in 2019, sharp drop in new refugee claimants
- As borders re-open and travel restrictions ease, potential for significant increase in refugee claimant arrivals above 2019 level



# Toronto Newcomer Strategy

2022 – 2026





# ➤ Toronto's Role

- Provider of key programs and services:  
*housing and emergency shelter, emergency services, employment services, transit, child care, parks and recreation services, and public health services, etc.*
- Facilitator and convenor
- Collaborator and advocate
- Home



# ➤ Strategic Priorities 2022-2026

*Priority 1:* Improve newcomer access to the City

*Priority 2:* Rigorously implement Access TO policy

*Priority 3:* Prepare and implement Newcomer Access Plans

*Priority 4:* Convene, collaborate and advocate

*Priority 5:* Report on results





## ➤ New Vision

Newcomers living in Toronto have a sense of belonging, well-being, and connectedness. They feel safe, supported, welcome and engaged.

The City is a leader in providing newcomers equitable access to municipal programs and services.







“ I chose to live in Toronto because of the unique diversity of the communities that reside here. Their multicultural heritage enriches every aspect of this city, including the variety of culinary options and the wealth of artistic and learning initiatives.

Melanie Anthony  
Immigrated from Mauritius



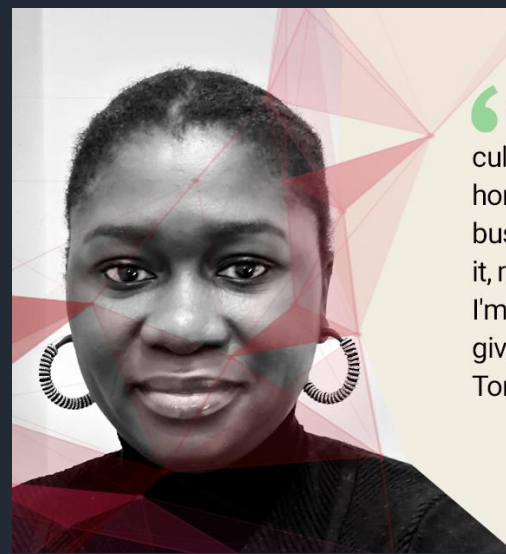
“ I relocated from Dubai to Toronto to acquire North American work experience. It quickly became home because of the high quality of life and the potential it promises. I love the tremendous tolerance and intellectual freedom found in Toronto. You can say, be and do anything you want.

Farida Talaat  
Immigrated from the United Arab Emirates



“ We took a big leap, leaving behind our matured decade-long careers to move to a city that's welcoming and adaptable. That's what makes Toronto a great destination for immigrants; the multicultural-multinational communities, wide range of career opportunities and a balanced atmosphere to raise a family.

Chantelle Cabral & Darryl D'cunha  
Immigrated from India



“ Toronto is a potpourri of so many cultures. An immigrant immediately feels at home here. I especially love the hustle and bustle of the city. “The Grind”, as I like to call it, reminds me of Lagos, where I come from. I'm probably being biased, but Toronto has given me so many opportunities. I think Toronto, and I see possibilities!

Temilola Adebayo  
Immigrated from Nigeria