



Citizenship and  
Immigration Canada

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# Citizenship and Immigration Canada



Update on CIC International  
Student Initiatives

FPCCEIRA

Ottawa, September 25, 2012



Canada



## Purpose

To provide an update on recent initiatives related to international students, including:

- Trends on international students and new statistical products
- Student processing
- Service improvements
- Policy and program updates



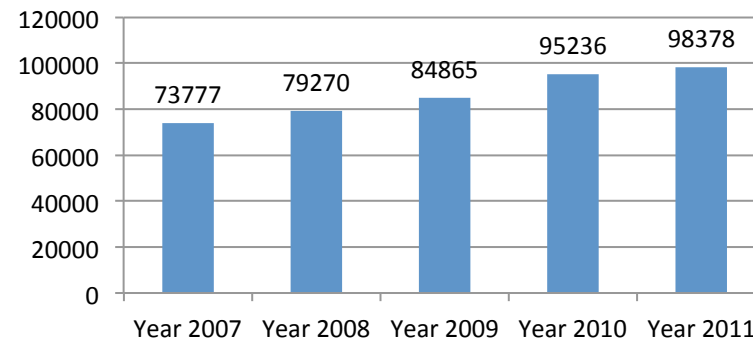
# International Student Trends



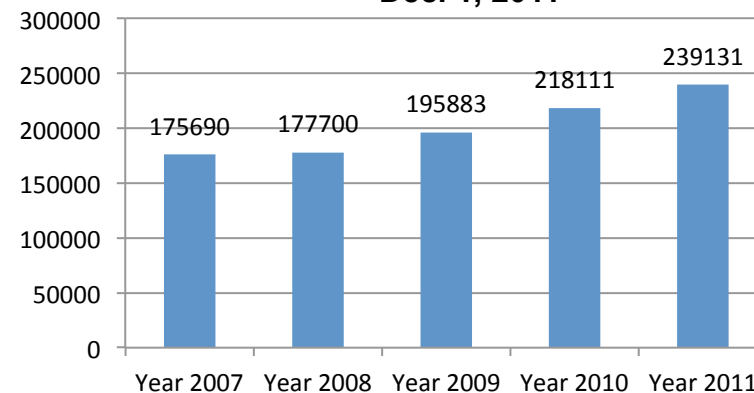
# Increasing Numbers of International Students

- Annual entries increasing in recent years
  - 98,378 international students entered Canada in 2011
  
- Total number of students residing in Canada also increasing
  - 239,131 international students residing in Canada (as of December 1, 2011)

**Annual Entries of International Students, 2007-11**



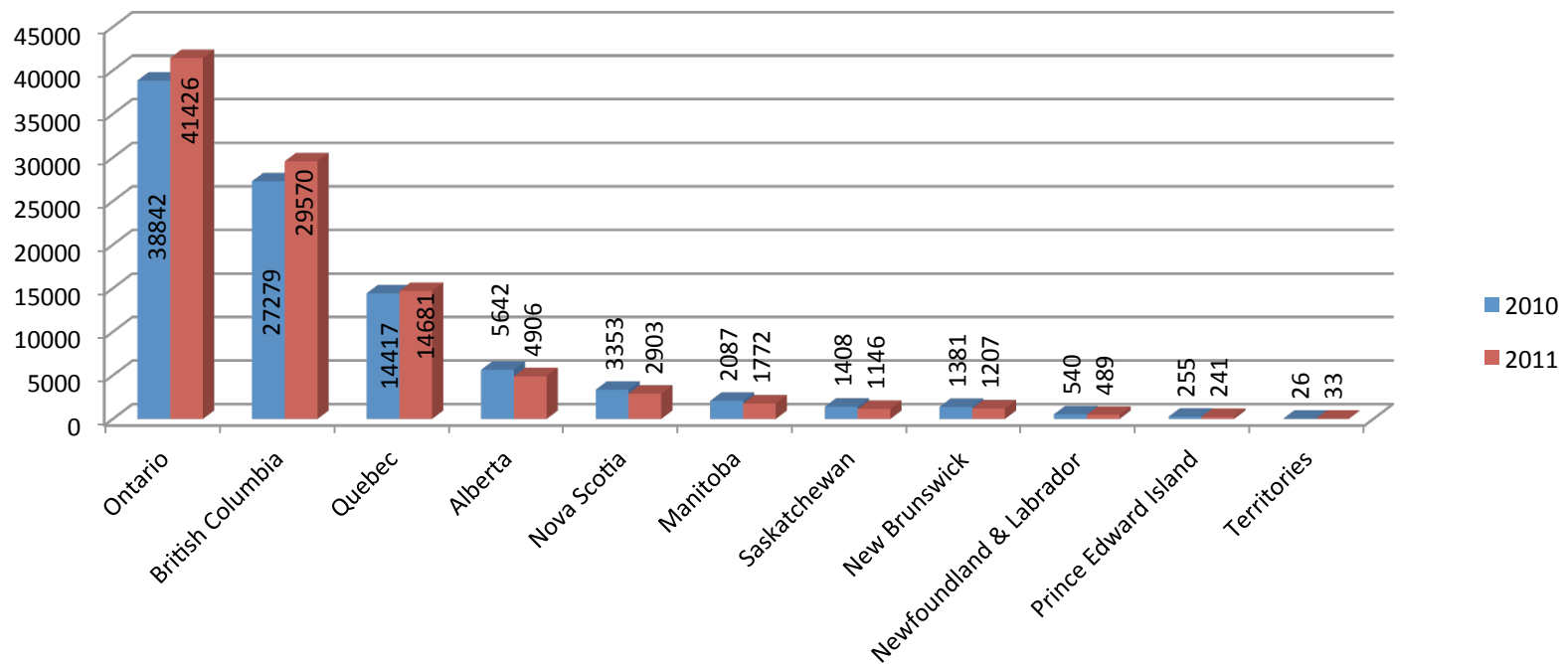
**Students Residing in Canada on Dec. 1, 2011**



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Preliminary 2011.

# Student Entries by Province/Territory of Destination

## Student Entries by PT, 2010-11

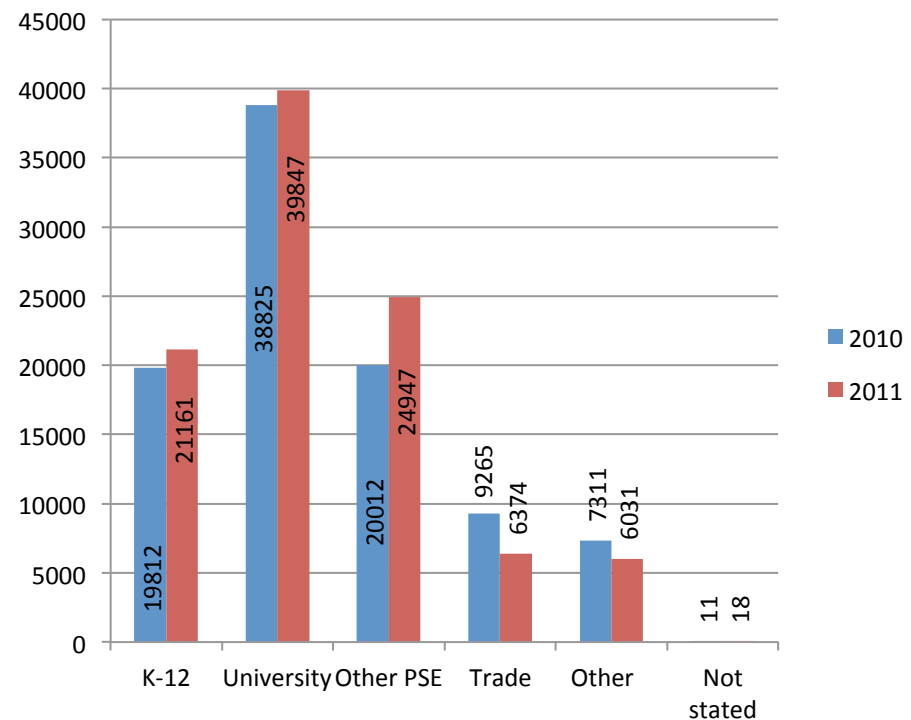


Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Preliminary 2011.

## Student Entries by Level of Study

- Largest share of international students destined to universities
  - 39,847 students entered Canada at university level in 2011 (41% of Canadian total)
- 24,947 students entered in the “Other PSE” category (25% of Canadian total)
- 21,161 students entered at K-12 level (22% of Canadian total)

**Student Entries by Level of Study, 2010-11**

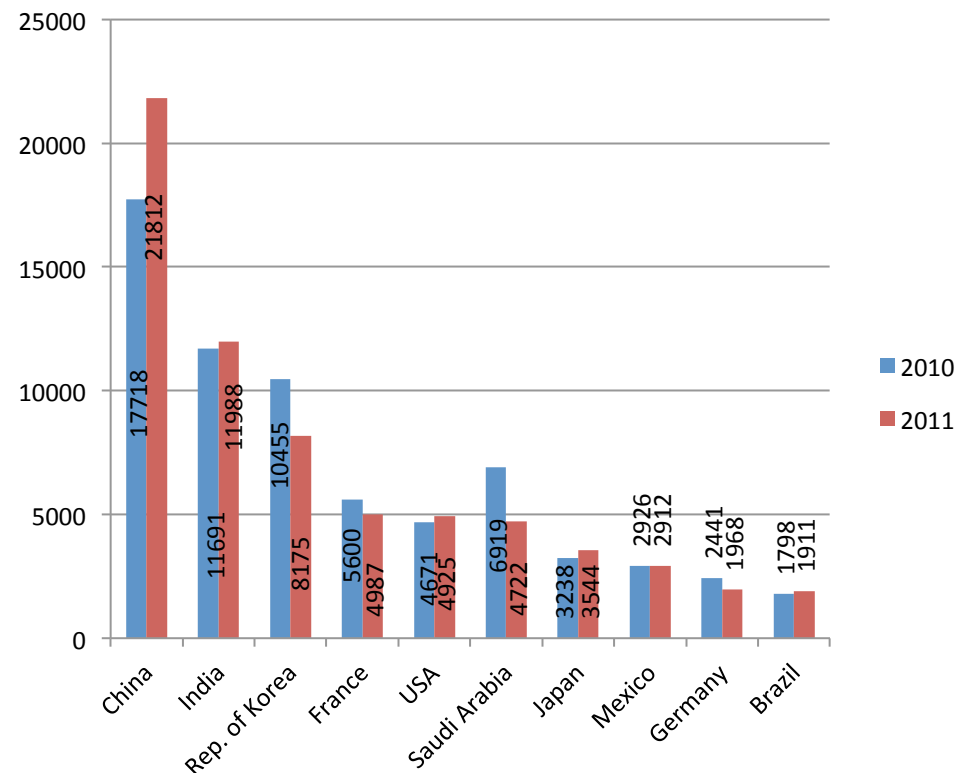


Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Preliminary 2011.

# Student Entries by Top 10 Source Countries, 2010-11

- Students from China (21,812) and India (11,988) represented 34% of total annual entries of foreign students in Canada in 2011
- Followed by Rep. Korea, France and USA
- Top 10 source countries represented nearly 70% of annual entries to Canada

**Student Entries by Top 10 Source Countries, 2010-11**



Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Preliminary 2011.



## Transitions to Permanent Residence

- Number of former students choosing to immigrate is increasing, noting growing importance of post-graduation employment
- International students transition to permanent residence primarily through Skilled Worker Class, Provincial Nominee Programs, Family Class, Investor Class and Canadian Experience Class, respectively
- Canadian Experience Class introduced on September 17, 2008
  - Since implementation, over 6,000 former students have been admitted
  - 84% approval rate for all CEC applicants





# Study Permit Processing



## Study Permit Processing: Overseas

- 81% approval rate globally in 2011, and 80% of SP decisions finalized within 39 days
- Consistently high approval rates among top source countries
- For countries with lower approval rates, important to understand and address underlying causes

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	APPROVAL RATE
CHINA	83%
INDIA	61%
REP. KOREA	90%
SAUDI ARABIA	91%
FRANCE	99%
BRAZIL	90%
JAPAN	98%
MEXICO	90%

Source: dwsweb;(4) International Region/nim\_all\_caips\_e from download of July 6, 2012

## Study Permit Processing: Inland

- Inland processing times have greatly improved over the past year
- Online Study Permit applications are now being processing within 28 days, almost twice as fast compared to March of last year
- Paper Study Permit applications are now being processed within 34 days, improving processing times by more than half compared to March of last year

Date	Study Permit Application	
	Online	Paper
As of September 19 <b>2012</b>	28 Days	34 Days
Last Week of March <b>2011</b>	50 Days	81 Days

Source: Central Processing Region, CIC



## Recent Changes to Processing Network

- April 2012 – closure of Visa of Immigration Section at the Embassy of Canada in Iran (Tehran); services transferred to Embassy of Canada in Turkey (Ankara)
- May 2012 – restructuring of North American processing network, including closure of Buffalo Visa Office and transfer of permanent resident services throughout the network
- June 2012 – closure of 19 local CIC offices and elimination of front counter service at domestic CIC offices across Canada



# Service Improvements





## VESPA: Visa-Exempt Study Permit Application

- To add to the existing suite of e-applications introduced throughout 2009-10 (i.e. study permit extensions, and the Off-Campus, Post-Graduation and Co-op/Internship work permit programs), CIC launched the **Visa-Exempt Study Permit Application (VESPA)** online service, in May 2011.
- VESPA is a pilot project which allows foreign nationals from 14 visa-exempt countries to apply for a study permit online.
- VESPA is currently available in the following countries: Australia, Barbados, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Ireland, Sweden and the United States.
- As of December 2012 online submissions will be available for all in-Canada and overseas students.



# Other Policy and Program Updates



## Bill C-35: Immigration Representatives

- March 24, 2011: Bill C-35, an Act to Amend the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) with respect to Immigration Representatives received Royal Assent
- Strengthens rules governing those who charge clients for immigration advice or representation, making it an offence for anyone other than an accredited immigration representative to conduct business, for a fee or other consideration, at any stage of an application or proceeding
- Bill aims to safeguard applicants from being misinformed about their immigration applications by unauthorized immigration representatives
- May have an impact on the work undertaken by education agents, but only with respect to the provision of advice in connection with an application under IRPA, such as an immigration application to Canada, including applications for study permits
- Oversight of the consultant community is being turned over to the newly created Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC), replacing the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (CSIC)

**Bill C-35 makes it an offence for anyone other than an authorized representative to conduct business, for a fee or other consideration, at any stage of an application proceeding. This includes advice, consultation, or guidance.**





## Improving Canada's Standing as a Study Destination

- Improving Canada's standing as a destination of choice for international students is a priority for federal and PT governments
- June 2010 – Federal and PT Ministers of Immigration committed to working together to improve Canada's standing as a destination of choice for international students seeking a quality education
- CIC working towards pre-publication of regulatory amendments by end 2012
- *Notice of Intent* published June 29 – CIC received over 70 responses
- CIC and PTs will formally consult associations and institutions this fall



## Advisory Panel Report

- CIC has been well consulted during the development of the recent Advisory Panel Report, and participated in a number of consultations held across the country throughout the winter 2012
- Number of key recommendations will have direct and significant impacts on CIC
- Overall, CIC is supportive of the overall Report
- Recommendations identified by Advisory Panel are in line with work CIC is undertaking to improve the integrity of the International Student Program



## Closing

- Attracting international students to Canada important economically and socially, including as source of potential immigrants
- CIC continuing to increase Canada's competitiveness through introduction of service improvements to clients through electronic and program initiatives
- CIC also working with provinces, territories and stakeholders to continue to improve Canada's standing as a destination of choice for international students through policy initiatives
- Moving forward, continued collaboration with stakeholders will be key

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