

# A Growing Problem: Is Canada's Healthcare System Keeping Up with Newcomers?

## Description

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Lauren Eastman, Sukhy K Mahl, Shoo K Lee

#### Abstract

Summary: Canada's population growth is ranked amongst the world's highest, with the annual number of newcomers to Canada more than doubling over the last decade – from 686,000 in 2014 to 1,540,000 in 2023. Federal policy indicates sustained growth over the coming years. The newcomer demand for health human resources, including family physicians, specialists and registered nurses, far out-strips new supply in recent years, leading to a shortage of 1,122 family physicians, 690 specialists and 8,538 registered nurses in 2022. Immigration and healthcare resource policies should work in tandem to ensure the healthcare shortage facing Canadians is not exacerbated.

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