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Refugee Claims Analysis Report (RCAR)

2020 (January to December)

Intelligence Collection, Analysis and Production Division
Intelligence and Targeting Directorate

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada / Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada
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Table of Contents

2020 Overall Refugee Claim Trends 3
2020 Trend Shifts Due to COVID 4
India 5
Mexico 6
Iran 7
Colombia 8
Haiti 9
Pakistan 10
China 11
Nigeria 12
Turkey 13
Sri Lanka 14
Countries 11-20 15
Appendix: Other Countries – Rank, Claims & Percent Change from 2019 16
Refugee Claims Analysis Report (RCAR) – Notes 17

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2020 REFUGEE CLAIM TRENDS

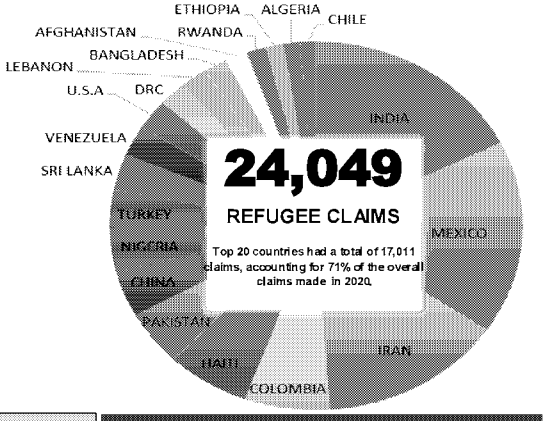
2020 had the **lowest number of claims** in Canada **since 2016**, and a **63% decrease** over **2019**. The top source countries were India, Mexico, Iran, Colombia, and Haiti. Top mode of entry was inland followed by BtPs and at Land POEs.

TOP TRENDS OF 2020

In 2020, COVID-19 related travel restrictions had a significant impact on irregular migration. Due to air and land travel restrictions and a direct back policy for BtP claimants, many irregular migrants were likely unable to travel to Canada, resulting in significantly less claims than in recent years. The majority of 2020 claims were made prior to COVID-19 travel restrictions, with 52% of claims made between January and March of 2020.

The three key pathways used by irregular migrants to reach Canada were:

Top 20 Source Countries for Refugee Claims



TOP EXPLOITATION METHODS

1) TRV FRAUD

In 2020, claims were predominately **made inland** by TRV holders. Many

STUDY PERMIT

Claimants on study permits actually decreased in 2020, but represented a higher proportion **(13%)** of overall claims compared to 2019 **(7%)**, with a total of (3,265) student claims made in 2020. Though numbers were likely increased by students being allowed to travel to Canada, the exploitation of the student visa stream likely increased as well. Top study permit claim nationalities were:

2) BtP/ LAND BORDER MOVEMENT

In 2020, there were 3,455 BtP claimants, an 80% decrease from 2019. The large decrease was due to a March 2020 direct back policy for all BtP claimants. In April 2020, land POE claims were allowed for those who qualified for exceptions under the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA). This resulted in a shift in claims from BtPs to land POEs, with many of the same top nationalities, including: I

SOUTHERN CORRIDOR

The southern corridor routing — entry into South or Central America, then northbound towards Mexico and through the US southern border to then claim in Canada BtPs or at a land POE - likely decreased in 2020. This routing typically requires movement through multiple countries via land and air mode, and COVID travel restrictions very likely made this increasingly difficult. Top nationalities were:

3) eTA EXPLOITATION

In 2020, visa-free travel was an enabler for irregular migration to Canada, particularly prior to air travel restrictions.

NEW TOP 20 REFUGEE SOURCE COUNTRIES IN 2020

LEBANON

Lebanon had the lowest decrease (-12%) in claims among the top 20 refugee claiming countries. Lebanon also significantly rose in rank, from 34th overall in 2019 to 14th overall in 2020, breaking into the top 20 source claiming countries. This is the highest rank Lebanon has been among top claiming countries since 2006. Despite the COVID travel restrictions, claims remained consistent from Lebanese nationals in 2020, likely due to increasing push factors including civil unrest and economic instability, and the strong pull factor of Canada having a large Lebanese diaspora.

CHILE

Despite COVID-19 travel restrictions, claims from Chilean nationals remained consistent in comparison to 2019. Chile is the only country amongst the top 20 claiming countries to have an increase (+4%) in claims. Likely reasons behind the increase in claims were visa free travel (eTA), ongoing protests demanding reform to social programs, and an increase in claims from non-Chilean adults that have Chilean citizen children.

Claims by Mode
(Top Source Country & Number of Claims)

(Inland) **16,215** (67%) (India; 2,848)

(Airport) **1,878** (8%) (Mexico; 713)

(BTP) **3,455** (14%) (Haiti; 418)

(Land POE) **2,439** (10%) (Haiti; 403)

OTHER NEW TOP 20 REFUGEE SOURCE COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN – Ranked 16th overall compared to 29th in 2019.

ETHIOPIA - Ranked 18th overall compared to 23rd in 2019.

ALGERIA - Ranked 19th overall compared to 21st in 2019.

Data pulled as of February 18, 2021 . Any subsequent data changes were not captured.

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2020 TREND SHIFTS DUE TO COVID

1) INCREASED PROPORTION OF CLAIMANTS ON STUDY PERMITS AMONGST TOP SOURCE COUNTRIES

Source Country	% of claimants on SP
India	24%
Mexico	1%
Iran	29%
Colombia	7%
Haiti	1%
Pakistan	3%
China	13%
Nigeria	10%
Turkey	28%
Sri Lanka	9%
Venezuela	7%
USA	0%
DRC	29%
Lebanon	3%
Bangladesh	31%
Afghanistan	2%
Rwanda	42%
Ethiopia	17%
Algeria	11%
Chile	1%

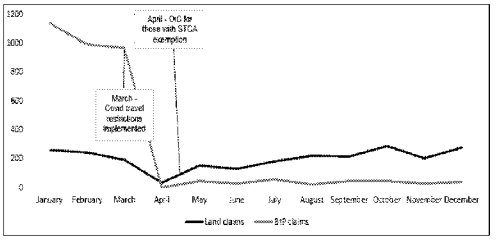
The percentage of claimants who entered Canada on study permits increased from 7% in 2019 to 13% in 2020 (+46%). This phenomenon is likely due to 2 main factors:

1) The initial COVID travel restrictions that significantly limited the entry of foreign nationals were eventually eased for students who were approved for or had a valid study permit on or before March 18, 2020.

2) Due to the continued restriction of most foreign nationals throughout 2020, there was a drastic reduction in overall refugee claims. Thus, it is likely that claims from individuals on study permits represented a higher proportion of claims due to student travel exemptions.

As of October 2020, those who have received a valid study permit and who are attending a designated learning institution (DLI) with an approved COVID-19 readiness plan are able to travel to Canada. As noted in the table, some source countries had a significant level of claimants on study permits compared to others.

2) A SHIFT FROM BETWEEN THE PORTS (BTP) CLAIMS TO LAND POE CLAIMS



In 2020, a significant shift away from between the ports (BtP) claims and towards land POE claims was noted. This was likely due to a government order in council (OiC) enacted in April that enforced a turn back policy for those who entered BtP. Although BtP claims represented 14% of overall claims compared to 10% for land POE claims, 90% of BtP claims were made between January-March and decreased dramatically from April-December. Common top source countries for both BtP and land claims were

Since the implementation of the OiC on April 22 that allowed for STCA exempt individuals to make refugee claims at land POEs, land claims temporarily increased, but then remained constant for most of 2020. However, in October 2020, land claims began to increase, with a significant portion of the increase stemming from

SOR region .

It is likely that individuals were (and still are) aware that BtP crossers, who have typically claimed are still being turned back, and thus shifted from BtP entries to land claims, particularly if they are STCA exempt. In a sample analysis,

3) MINOR TRENDS

MARINE DESERTERS AND STOWAWAYS

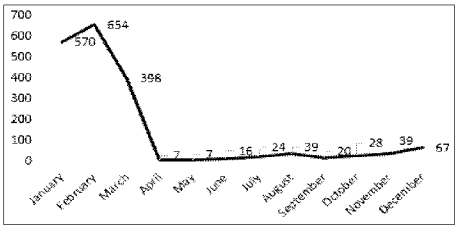
Despite travel restrictions and a 38% decrease in marine refugee claims (24 in 2019 and 15 in 2020), several significant stowaway claims were made in 2020. Although nd remain top source countries, typically as marine deserters, several claims were also made by

These incidents correspond with open source reporting on the likelihood of migrants using more precarious means to arrive to Canada due to socioeconomic conditions exacerbated by COVID.

INCREASE IN AIR CLAIMS TOWARDS END OF 2020

Though COVID travel restrictions drastically limited refugee claims made at airports, air claims increased towards the end of 2020. Of the 1,876 claims made in the air mode, 86% were made between January-March, primarily by

nationals. However, 67 claims were made in the air mode in December. There are several likely reasons for this phenomenon: the slow re emergence of global air travel and the abuse of transit rules (with an onward destination) and IRCC extended family invitation letters.



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1. INDIA

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: QUE

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 384,872	**Overseas intercepts:** 147 (3rd)	**SP:** 727	**Visitor:** 1,946	
Inadmissibility reports: 227	**Removals:** 1,131 (1st)	**WP:** 277	**Unspecified:** 122	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 3,073 Inland (2,848) Airport (174) BtP (34) Land POE (17)	**Regions:** ATL (15) | QUE (1,698) | GTA (790) | NOR (0) | SOR (4) | PRAR (46) | PAC (517) **Gender:** Female (994) | Male (2,081) **Minors:** 315	**Air:** Pearson Airport (128) **BtP:** Montreal Immigration (20)	**Land:** Lacolle POE (5) **Inland:** Montreal Immigration (1,643)	**Overall claims:** 7,337 Inland (6,346) Airport (841) BtP (118) Land POE (32)	**Overall claims:** 4,547 Inland (3,325) Airport (1,168) BtP (63) Land POE (26)	TORONTO VANCOUVER CALGARY

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: After dropping to the second highest claiming country in 2019, India returned to being the top source claiming nationality in Canada in 2020. Despite having the most amount of claims in 2020, overall claims from Indian nationals decreased by 58% in comparison to 2019. Claims were mainly filed inland (93%), with the majority of inland claims being filed in the QUE region. India ranked 1st overall for inland claims and 2nd overall for claims filed at airports, only behind Mexico.

PUSH FACTORS: High unemployment rate; insurgency; environmental degradation (i.e. dangerous levels of air pollution); extensive poverty; caste discrimination; corruption; increasing religious tensions (i.e. attacks on religious minorities); gender-based violence against women and girls; honour killings; discrimination against LGBTQ+ community. (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020)

PULL FACTORS: Strong Indian diaspora in Canada; favorable socio-economic opportunities; family reunification; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals; respect for women's rights.

X-FACTOR: Political and religious persecution and socio-economic conditions, particularly of minorities, will likely influence migratory trends from India in 2021. India has been at the forefront of vaccine efforts and attempting to manage the COVID-19 virus spread among its population, likely pushing previous agendas aside. However, much like in the rest of the world, 2021 will likely reveal the effects of restrictions, spending, and domestic lockdown policies that have negatively impacted much of India's economy through further loss of employment, loss of revenue and a straining health care system. As a result, once travel restrictions begin to lift, more Indian nationals are expected to look for employment opportunities in wealthier countries such as Canada and will likely use the resources of sophisticated smuggling networks to do so.

2021 FORECAST: India will very likely continue to be a top 3 source country for irregular migration through 2021

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2. MEXICO

Visa Required: No (as of December 16, 2016)
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: GTA

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 52,377	**Overseas intercepts:** 970 (1st)	**Visitor:** 2,852	**SP:** 18	
Inadmissibility reports: 128	**Removals:** 1,044 (2nd)	**WP:** 30	**Unspecified:** 73	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 2,975 Inland (2,203) Air (713) Land POE (37) BtP (22)	**Regions:** ATL (5) | QUE (1,199) | GTA (1,286) | NOR (21) | SOR (187) | PRAR (102) | PAC (176) **Gender:** Female (1,232) | Male (1,743) **Minors:** 541	**Air:** P.E Trudeau Airport (492) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Center (16)	**Land:** Lacolle POE (21) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (1,021)	**Overall claims:** 6,339 Air (3,395) Inland (2,870) BtP (59) Land POE (59)	**Overall claims:** 3,322 Airport (1,875) Inland (1,399) Land POE (27) BtP (26)	TORONTO MONTREAL VANCOUVER

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: Unlike previous years, the predominant mode of claim by Mexican nationals in 2020 was inland, not air, due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Moreover, a 53% decrease in overall claims was noted from 2019 to 2020. Despite ranking 2nd in overall refugee claims, Mexico was 3rd in inland claims (2,203), slightly behind India (2,848) and Iran (2,487). 50% of Mexican claims were filed between January-March, primarily in the GTA. Despite overall decreases in overseas interceptions compared to 2019,

Visa free travel (eTA) remains a key pull factor and largely contributes to Mexico's placement in the top 3 source countries. Due to Mexico's visa exempt status,

In a sample analyzed, the vast majority (73%) of Mexican nationals claimed on the basis of personal threats, mainly in the form of extortion, kidnapping or other means, due to criminal organizations and/or cartel violence perpetuated by groups like Cartel Jalisco Nueva Generacion (CJNG) and Los Zetas. Domestic violence and discrimination due to sexual orientation were also commonly cited.

PUSH FACTORS: Criminal violence; record high homicide rate; discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity; violence against women; natural disasters (i.e. earthquakes); corruption; violence against journalists; income inequality (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020)

PULL FACTORS: Visa free travel; favorable socio-economic opportunities; diaspora community; little criminal or political violence; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals; little perceived corruption.

X-FACTOR:

As of December 2020, the country surpassed 100,000 COVID deaths however the number is likely higher. The already fragile Mexican economy has experienced significant loss as a result of the pandemic by way of business and investment decreases, with little government financial relief response to assist businesses to remain open and maintain employment levels. The pandemic has also caused further increases in critical issues and push factors in the country such as violence against women. The COVID -19 pandemic is benefitting organized crime groups in Mexico, as they step in to fulfill needs of local population through the delivery of food and medication where local government efforts are insufficient. As a result, the pandemic is indirectly encouraging increased membership in organized crime, as Mexico's economy continues shrinking and access to legitimate work is increasingly limited.

2021 FORECAST: Mexico is expected to remain in top five countries for asylum claims in 2021, especially when air travel resumes.

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3. IRAN

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: GTA

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 28,679	**Overseas intercepts:** 36 (7th)	**Visitor:** 1,540	**SP:** 743	
Inadmissibility reports: 38	**Removals:** 118 (20th)	**WP:** 219	**Unspecified:** 23	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 2,527 Inland (2,485) Air (32) Land POE (6) BtP (2)	**Regions:** ATL (9) | QUE (232) | GTA (1,410) | NOR (20) | SOR (31) | PRAR (46) | PAC (779) **Gender:** Female (1,322) | Male (1,206) **Minors:** 377	**Air:** Pearson Airport (18) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Center (2)	**Land:** Pacific Hwy Traffic POE (4) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (1,327)	**Overall claims:** 5,617 Inland (5,493) Air (119) Land POE (3) BtP (2)	**Overall claims:** 2,579 Inland (2,439) Airport (134) Land POE (4) BtP (2)	TORONTO MONTREAL VANCOUVER

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: Iran remains a top 3 source country for the second consecutive year despite a 55% decrease in claims compared to 2019. However, many overarching claim trends remain the same: the vast majority of claims were made inland (98%), predominately at Etobicoke IRCC office (53%), and the majority of Iranian claimants (61%) arrived to Canada on visitor visas. The most common basis of claim was religious persecution, either due to conversion to Christianity in Iran or subsequently after arrival in Canada.

PUSH FACTORS: Repression of political dissent; religious fundamentalism; repression and discrimination of religious and ethnic minorities; civil tensions; discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity; economic crises; academic restrictions; allegations of unfair trials and cruel punishments (i.e. torture). (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020)

PULL FACTORS: Favorable socio-economic conditions; large diaspora; academic opportunities; religious freedoms; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals.

X-FACTOR: Iran continues to struggle with containing the COVID-19 pandemic with record deaths and health care systems weakened by insufficient funding, staff and equipment.

groups threatening to create security crisis in response to US sanctions. The US government continues a sanction heavy strategy to try and quell Iran from continuing war in the Middle East that has reportedly created a humanitarian disaster.

2021 FORECAST: Iran is likely to remain in the Top 5 for asylum claims in Canada in 2021,

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4. COLOMBIA

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: QUE

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 19,724	**Overseas intercepts:** 0	**Visitor:** 357	**SP:** 80	
Inadmissibility reports: 118	**Removals:** 299 (6th)	**WP:** 26	**Unspecified:** 701	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 1,165 Inland (378) BtP (357) Land POE (361) Air (69)	**Regions:** ATL (0) | QUE (568) | GTA (208) | NOR (13) | SOR (264) | PRAR (75) | PAC (36) **Gender:** Female (595) | Male (569) **Minors:** 323	**Air:** Pearson Airport (44) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Center (321)	**Land:** Fort Erie Peace Bridge (150) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (130)	**Overall claims:** 3,400 BtP (1,570) Inland (1,368) Land POE (834) Air (268)	**Overall claims:** 2,617 BtP (1,163) Land POE (809) Inland (689) Airport (135)	TORONTO MONTREAL CALGARY

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: Through a surge in land POE claims towards the end of 2020, Colombia (1,165) surpassed Haiti (1,141) in overall claims, and for the 3rd consecutive year remains a top 5 source country. There was also a 66% decrease in overall claims from 2019 to 2020. The majority of claims by Colombian nationals are made BtPs, particularly at the Quebec Regional Processing Center, as well as at land POEs, noted by the high volume of unspecified TR application types (60% of all claims). COVID travel restrictions implemented in March turned back all individuals who entered BtP, but an OiC in April allowed for STCA exempt individuals to make refugee claims at land POEs. Thus, there was a noted shift away from BtP claims, and a dramatic increase in land POE claims from Colombian nationals coming from the US after travel restrictions were eased by the US, primarily between September-December. The land POE increase predominately took place at
and have had high USNIV rates. The primary basis of claims were persecution from Public Safety Canada listed terrorist entities such as the FARC and ELN, and organized crime and gang violence.

PUSH FACTORS: Violence due to drug trafficking; paramilitary activities; corruption; discrimination against LGBTQ+ community; violence against human rights activists and community leaders; internal and regional displacement (i.e. as a result of conflict or land degradation); limited economic opportunities (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020).

PULL FACTORS: Favourable socio-economic opportunities; family reunification; Colombian diaspora; little criminal paramilitary or political violence; little perceived corruption; freedom for LGBTQ+ community.

X-FACTOR

Recently, Colombia announced a major policy reform providing a ten-year temporary protection status to the approximately 1.7 million Venezuelans in the country. It is likely that this was done in order to limit the effects regional displacement and bolster domestic security policies. It remains unclear if a majority of Colombians support the move and what it will mean for Colombian migration to Canada into 2021-2022.

2021 FORECAST: Colombia is likely to remain a top 10 source country in 2021.

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5. HAITI

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: QUE

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 8,949	**Overseas intercepts:** 29 (9th)	**Visitor:** 362	**SP:** 13	
Inadmissibility reports: 36	**Removals:** 273 (8th)	**WP:** 6	**Unspecified:** 759	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 1,141 BtP (418) Land POE (403) Inland (305) Air (15)	**Regions:** ATL (1) | QUE (1,034) | GTA (9) | NOR (14) | SOR (78) | PRAR (3) | PAC (3) **Gender:** Female (617) | Male (525) **Minors:** 166	**Air:** P.E. Trudeau Airport (16) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Centre (408)	**Land:** Lacolle POE (317) **Inland:** Montreal Immigration (262)	**Overall claims:** 1,629 BtP (868) Inland (607) Land POE (97) Air (57)	**Overall claims:** 1,262 Inland (627) BtP (598) Land POE (101) Airport (44)	MONTREAL OTTAWA-GATINEAU TORONTO

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: In 2020, Haiti was the 5th top source claiming nationality, up from 9th in 2019. Of the top 10 claiming countries, Haiti had the smallest decrease (-30%) in refugee claims from 2019. Haitian claims were nearly split between BtP and land POE claims, likely influenced by the direct back policy for BtP claimants. Historically, BtP has been Haitian migrants primary claim mode. In 2020, Haiti was the top source country for BtP claims, surpassing other typical top BtP claiming countries Nigeria and Colombia. The majority (91%) of Haitian claims were filed the QUE region, likely due to the large Haitian diaspora in Quebec. Analysis of 2020 Haitian claimants indicates that many were already residing in the US, primarily Florida, prior to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Due to the increasing push factors (economic and political crises) in South America, many Haitians previously residing in Chile and Brazil also appear to have travelled to North America, to either settle in the US or Canada in areas of large Haitian diaspora. Analysis of basis of claims indicates that Haitian claimants sought refugee protection predominately due to physical threats from organized criminals (ex. Ti Kenken gang), followed by threats due to political affiliation. Other top basis of claims include domestic and family related violence and general insecurity.

PUSH FACTORS: Economic and political instability; political unrest; corruption; long-standing human rights issues; high crime rates; high unemployment; extreme poverty; income inequality; gender-based violence; discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals; push factors out of secondary countries such as the US, Brazil, Venezuela, the Bahamas and Dominican Republic (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020).

PULL FACTORS: Growing Haitian diaspora in Canada; perceived durable solution for residence; favorable socio-economic and scholastic opportunities; little criminal violence, little to no paramilitary and political violence or corruption; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals; perception that migrants are welcomed and diversity embraced.

X-FACTOR: Criminal violence is likely to continue to be a strong push factor for irregular migration to Canada from Haiti. The United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) reported 944 intentional homicides, 124 abductions, and 78 cases of sexual and gender-based violence from January through August 31, 2020 with at least 159 people killed as a result of gang violence.

2021 FORECAST: Its very likely that Haiti will remain within the top 10 source countries for refugee claims in 2021

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6. PAKISTAN

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: QUE

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 13,710	**Overseas intercepts:** 19 (11th)	**Visitor:** 379	**SP:** 27	
Inadmissibility reports: 27	**Removals:** 922 (3rd)	**WP:** 13	**Unspecified:** 430	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 849 Inland (397) BtP (267) Land POE (170) Air (14)	**Regions:** ATL (1) | QUE (314) | GTA (278) | NOR (16) | SOR (148) | PRAR (55) | PAC (35) **Gender:** Female (340) | Male (509) **Minors:** 202	**Air:** Pearson Airport (10) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Centre (259)	**Land:** Fort Erie Processing Centre (109) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (244)	**Overall claims:** 2,694 Inland (1,216) BtP(1,014) Land POE (377) Air (32)	**Overall claims:** 2,071 Inland (1,059) BtP (707) Land POE (339) Airport (83)	TORONTO CALGARY MONTREAL

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: In 2020, Pakistan remained 6th among top source claiming countries, despite overall claims decreasing by 68%. Pakistani nationals entered their claims predominately inland, followed by BtP and at land POEs. Most claims were entered in the QUE region, followed by the GTA and SOR. The UAE was listed by 34 Pakistani claimants as their most recent country of residence, and 17 listed Saudi Arabia. Pakistani claimants are likely impacted by Emiratization and Saudization, which are workforce policies that aim to replace foreign workers with UAE and Saudi nationals. Many claimants indicated in their basis of claims that they were previously working in the UAE or Saudi Arabia, but lost their employment. Religious persecution continues to be the primary basis of claim for Pakistani nationals, particularly persecution of Shi'a and Ahmadi Muslims. Other significant basis of claim include domestic/family violence (disputes due to forced marriages and threats of honour killings), fear of various terrorist groups, political persecution and violence due to sexual orientation.

PUSH FACTORS: Militancy; violent extremism; deteriorating security situation; corruption; weak infrastructure; varied economic growth; religious fundamentalism; violence against women and children (i.e. honor killings, sexual abuse); strict anti-blasphemy law (i.e. viewed as a capital crime); discrimination against LGBTQ+ community; growing movement of hate speech; effects of Saudization (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020).

PULL FACTORS: Pakistani community in Canada; favorable socio-economic conditions; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals; little criminal violence; little to no paramilitary and political violence; little perceived corruption; freedom of religion.

X-FACTOR: Bombings and other terrorist attacks still pose a substantial threat to civilians, religious institutions, markets, embassies /diplomatic missions, and other places frequented by civilians despite operations by security forces that have decreased the pace and scope of such attacks in the past several years. Government, military and police officials are the primary targets for most militant groups, though Christians, minority groups and others have been targeted frequently.

This is likely to create conditions for movement and displacement out of the region by migrants seeking asylum and protection in Canada.

2021 FORECAST: Pakistan is expected to remain in the top 10 for asylum claims into 2021.

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7. CHINA

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: GTA

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 198,328	**Overseas intercepts:** 14 (17th)	**Visitor:** 561	**SP:** 90	
Inadmissibility reports: 81	**Removals:** 668 (4th)	**WP:** 11	**Unspecified:** 35	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 701 Inland (653) Air (34) BtP (10) Land POE (4)	**Regions:** ATL (8) | QUE (36) | GTA (552) | NOR (8) | SOR (13) | PRAR (17) | PAC (68) **Gender:** Female (312) | Male (390) **Minors:** 60	**Air:** Pearson Airport (31) **BtP:** Etobicoke IRCC (9)	**Land:** Niagara Falls Rainbow Bridge (1) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (516)	**Overall claims:** 2,044 Inland (1,653) Air (316) BtP (66) Land POE (8)	**Overall claims:** 1,889 Inland (1,659) Airport (216) BtP (105) Land POE (3)	TORONTO VANCOUVER MONTREAL

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: Despite a 66% decrease in overall claims, China maintained 7th overall position for top source claiming countries from 2019 to 2020. Several refugee claim trends from 2019 also persist in 2020, including the vast majority of claims being made inland (93%), with a large portion (35%) of inland claims being made at Etobicoke IRCC, and Chinese claimants continuing to be primarily on visitor visas (80%). According to IRCC data, China ranks second to India with nearly 200,000 TRVs (including extensions) issued in 2020. In 2020, 13% of claimants were on study permits, compared to 5% in 2019, a shift that, likely due to COVID travel restrictions In a sample analysis of 2020 claimants, the main basis of claim was religious persecution, mainly by Christians and followers of Falun Gong, followed by ethnic persecution of minorities (Uighurs and Tibetans), and political oppression.

PUSH FACTORS: Communist regime; religious repression; corruption; wealth gap; environmental degradation; natural disasters; mistreatment of minorities (i.e. Uighur Muslims); increasing government surveillance; increasing religious repression; aggressive online censorship.

PULL FACTORS: Freedom of religion; large Chinese diaspora in Canada; financial and social betterment in Canada; lack of extradition treaty with China; freedom of speech and expression.

X-FACTOR:

Despite protests of the imposed national security law (NSL) in Hong Kong, an exodus of Chinese nationals to Canada in the short term is likely to be manageable, particularly since a number of Hong Kong nationals already possessing Canadian citizenship will make up a majority of the displacement outside of mainland China. However, it is more likely that claims for Hong Kong nationals will gradually increase over the short to medium term due to visa free travel. Mass arrests of moderate pro-democracy figures in Hong Kong signals an escalation in the application of China's NSL policy, which is likely to push other pro-democracy figures and perhaps more moderate citizens out of mainland China.

2021 FORECAST: China will likely continue to be a top 10 source country for asylum claims in 2021 and religious

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8. NIGERIA

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: QUE

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 28,278	**Overseas intercepts:** 37 (6th)	**Visitor:** 237	**SP:** 67	
Inadmissibility reports: 102	**Removals:** 257 (9th)	**WP:** 15	**Unspecified:** 359	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 677 BtP (331) Inland (287) Air (39) Land POE (25)	**Regions:** ATL (1) | QUE (351) | GTA (237) | NOR (15) | SOR (27) | PRAR (32 | PAC (16) **Gender:** Female (314) | Male (365) **Minors:** 168	**Air:** Pearson Airport (32) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Center (326)	**Land:** Niagara Falls Rainbow Bridge (8) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (199)	**Overall claims:** 4,158 BtP (2,930) Inland (1,021) Air (143) Land POE (64)	**Overall claims:** 8,936 BtP (7,705) Inland (2,701) Land POE (148) Airport (146)	TORONTO CALGARY WINNIPEG

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: Nigerian claims significantly decreased in 2020, dropping from being in the top 5 source countries for the first time since 2013. Most claims were entered BtP (48%) followed by at inland offices (42%). The number of BtP claims from Nigerian nationals decreased (-89%) significantly in 2020, and Nigeria dropped from 1st overall rank for BtP claims in 2019, to 3rd in 2020. Nigeria continues to account for less of the overall BtP movement as well. In 2018, Nigerian claims accounted for 39% of the total BtP movement, then 17% in 2019, and now 10% in 2020. The majority (89%) of Nigerian BtP claimants were in possession of a USNIV. A large proportion (50%) of these claimants had been in the US for over a year prior to seeking asylum in Canada, likely meaning many of the Nigerian BtP claimants original intention was to not claim in Canada, but rather settle in the US. The predominant basis of claims are persecution due to sexual orientation, since it is a criminal offence to be an LGBTQ+ person in Nigeria. A more frequently cited basis of claim in 2020 was death threats and violence from organised criminal groups (mentioned in 15% of claims in sample analyzed). Other top basis of claims included family violence and political persecution.

PUSH FACTORS: Political uncertainty; corruption; internal displacement; civil conflict; religious tensions; discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals; ban on homosexuality; poor socio-economic conditions; violent extremism; recession; income inequality; separatist aspirations; imposition of Sharia law in some northern states; female genital mutilation (FGM); use of children by Daesh-West Africa. (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020)

PULL FACTORS: Favorable socio-economic opportunities; development and acquisition of high-level skills; little criminal violence, and no paramilitary and political violence; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals.

X-FACTOR: Nigeria faces a variety of internal challenges such as those relating to the humanitarian response in Nigeria's northeast region where the government's armed conflict with the Islamist extremist armed group Boko Haram, now in its 11th year, has left over 7.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. While the global pandemic has amplified several factors influencing outward irregular migration, persecution due to sexual orientation and family and gender based violence remains to the top driving factor as cited in push factors for Nigerian applicants.

In addition, several northern Nigerian states have adopted Islamic Sharia laws, criminalizing sexual activities between persons of the same sex and punishable by death. Though several human rights organizations have urged the Nigerian government to repeal the laws, there is currently no plan in place,

2021 FORECAST: Nigeria will likely remain among the top 10 source country for refugee claims to Canada

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9. TURKEY

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: GTA

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 9,594	**Overseas intercepts:** 14 (16th)	**Visitor:** 218	**SP:** 161	
Inadmissibility reports: 11	**Removals:** 100 (23rd)	**WP:** 27	**Unspecified:** 176	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 582 Inland (401) Land POE (91) Air (22) BtP (68)	**Regions:** ATL (1) | QUE (90) | GTA (240) | NOR (12) | SOR (199) | PRAR (9) | PAC (32) **Gender:** Female (201) | Male (382) **Minors:** 83	**Air:** Pearson Airport (21) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Centre (61)	**Land:** Fort Erie Peace Bridge (61) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (208)	**Overall claims:** 2,025 Inland (1,222) BtP (455) Land POE (249) Air (99)	**Overall claims:** 1,868 Inland (1,095) BtP (631) Land POE (161) Airport (143)	TORONTO MONTREAL VANCOUVER

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: In 2020, Turkey remained a top 10 source country, despite a 71% decrease in overall claims and dropping one spot among top claiming countries in Canada. Turkish nationals filed the majority of their claims at inland offices, followed by land POEs. Turkish nationals continue to make claims in all CBSA regions, with most filed in the GTA, followed by the SOR and QUE regions. The large majority of Turkish nationals are filing for protection for alleged political persecution due to actual or perceived membership in the Gulen Movement (Hizmet). Hizmet has been designated as a terrorist group in Turkey and Turkish authorities have asserted that it was members of this movement that were behind the 2016 coup, and therefore arrests and abuse of suspected individuals with links to the Hizmet continue. Other top basis of claims include being persecuted for Kurdish ethnicity and abuse due to sexual orientation.

Of the Turkish BtP claimants, 85% held USNIVs, and 76% entered Canada within 30 days of entering the US, likely indicating that many land border (BtP and land POE) claimants are obtaining USNIVs to transit the US and claim in Canada.

PUSH FACTORS: Persecution against persons with actual and perceived membership to Hizmet; persecution against Kurdish minority; harsh stance against political opposition; stalled economy; discrimination against LGBTQ+ individuals; ongoing government purges of the military, judiciary, police and in the fields of academics and medicine; indicators of the country becoming more of a dictatorship than democracy (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020).

PULL FACTORS: No extradition agreement with Turkey; favorable socio-economic and scholastic opportunities (accredited Hizmet schools); growing Turkish diaspora; Canada's cultural diversity; freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals; little criminal violence, and no paramilitary and political violence.

X– FACTOR: Turkish citizens face a variety of domestic threats mostly from militant jihadists of the Islamic state and Kurdish separatist fighters. Threats of attacks by these groups persist which is leading to some movement out of the country. Turkey is experiencing high levels of religious restrictions which have caused much of the movement seen both out of Turkey and the wider Middle East North Africa (MENA) region. In Turkey, religious persecution is a tactic that is used to discriminate against and restrict the rights of others which is driving migration along these lines. With migration pathways likely reduced globally, either as a result of restrictive socio-economic conditions or harsh immigration policies, desperation will likely see more migrants increasingly use the services of smuggling networks and more dangerous pathways, which is likely to increase migrant vulnerability and exploitation by traffickers or other criminal groups.

2021 FORECAST: Turkey will likely continue into the top 10 for claims for 2021

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10. SRI LANKA

Visa Required: Yes
IRB Acceptance Rate:
Top Claiming Region: GTA

2020 Migration Statistics		TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants		Top Exploitation Method
Visas issued: 5,530	**Overseas intercepts:** 54 (4th)	**Visitor:** 219	**SP:** 48	
Inadmissibility reports: 41	**Removals:** 125 (18th)	**WP:** 14	**Unspecified:** 266	

2020 Refugee Claims		Top POEs and Offices		2019 Refugee Claims	2018 Refugee Claims	Diasporas in Canada
Overall claims: 548 Inland (321) Land (111) BtP (78) Air (38)	**Regions:** ATL (0) | QUE (122) | GTA (287) | NOR (3) | SOR (106) | PRAR (4) | PAC (26) **Gender:** Female (142) | Male (406) **Minors:** 53	**Air:** Pearson Airport (18) **BtP:** Quebec Regional Processing Centre (77)	**Land:** Fort Erie Processing Centre (92) **Inland:** Etobicoke IRCC (262)	**Overall claims:** 978 Inland (633) BtP (175) Land (123) Air (47)	**Overall claims:** 554 BtP (256) Inland (165) Land PQE (129) Airport (27)	TORONTO MONTREAL VANCOUVER

REFUGEE CLAIM INFORMATION: In 2020, Sri Lanka entered the top 10 source countries of refugee claims to Canada after breaking into the top 20 in 2019, despite a 44% decrease in overall claims. This is likely due to a variety of push factors, including a new political regime, as well as strong pull factors, such as a large Tamil diaspora in Canada and human smuggling networks. Sri Lankan nationals continue to make their claims inland (321), primarily at Etobicoke IRCC, followed by at land POEs (111) and BtP (78). 74% of refugee claims were made by males typically between the ages of 18-35 years old, and 44% of all refugee claims were made between January-March. Of the 2020 BtP claimants, only 2% had a USNIV, which indicates nearly all Sri Lankan BtP claimants likely utilized the southern corridor to enter the US and subsequently make a refugee claim in Canada.

PUSH FACTORS: Discrimination against Tamil and Muslim populations; persecution of religious minorities; ethnic inequalities; human rights violations; discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity; and economic instability (many of these push factors have intensified due to COVID-19 in 2020).

PULL FACTORS: Large Tamil diaspora in Canada; favorable socio-economic conditions; religious freedoms, freedom for LGBTQ+ individuals.

X-FACTOR: The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts on Sri Lanka,

There have been calls to boycott Muslim businesses along with false allegations of Muslims spreading COVID-19 deliberately. Furthermore, there was been widespread opposition to mandatory cremation due to a COVID-19 death since cremation is in contravention of Islamic tradition. This policy is in response to claims that burying those with COVID-19 could lead to a contamination of ground water, which has since been refuted by the medical community. This has left many frustrated about conflicting or inaccurate health advice and a lack of consultation with doctors and nurses regarding the need for quarantining and disease prevention which could contribute to a greater spread of COVID-19. If tensions continue to rise, push factors will continue to be exacerbated likely resulting in an increase in irregular migration from Sri Lanka.

2021 FORECAST: Sri Lanka is likely to remain a top 10 source country for irregular migration to Canada

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REFUGEE CLAIMS ANALYSIS REPORT (RCAR) 2020
INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND PRODUCTION (ICAP)

2020 TOP CLAIMING COUNTRIES 11-20

11) VENEZUELA

TOTAL: 469 claims

Airport: 6 claims
Land POE: 119 claims
Inland: 266 claims
BtP: 78 claims

ANALYSIS: In 2020, Venezuelan claims decreased by 67% in comparison to 2019. Despite the overall decrease in refugee claims, Venezuela moved up one spot among the top claiming countries. Venezuelan claims were predominately filed in the QUE region (44%), followed by in the GTA (24%). The majority (57%) of claims were filed inland at Etobicoke IRCC. Venezuela land POE claims increased in the last 3 months of 2020, likely due to a renewal of flights from Colombia to the US. Push factors remain strong in Venezuela, including economic crises, political instability, and shortages on goods and food.

12) USA

TOTAL: 464 claims

Airport: 23 claims
Land POE: 153 claims
Inland: 133 claims
BtP: 155 claims

ANALYSIS: In 2020, the US fell out of the top 10 claiming countries for the first time since 2016. US claims also decreased by 69% in comparison to 2019. US claims were primarily filed in the QUE region (52%), at Quebec Regional Processing Centre (130 claims). Minors accounted for 74% of all US claims, with the vast majority accompanying their non-US citizen parents seeking refugee protection. Based on claimants indicated last country of residence, many US claiming minors appear to have been previously residing in Haiti and Nigeria, likely their parents nationality.

13) DR CONGO

TOTAL: 393 claims

Airport: 10 claims
Land POE: 14 claims
Inland: 233 claims
BtP: 140 claims

ANALYSIS: In 2020, the DRC dropped two positions from 2019, and overall claims decreased by 73%. DRC claims were mostly filed in the QUE region (76%), followed by in the NOR (12%). 64% of DRC claims were filed from January to March 2020, prior to COVID travel restrictions. The DRC was one of the many African countries in which irregular migration was severely impacted by air travel restrictions, as many African nationals have to travel through several transit countries to get to Canada. Despite decreased claims, push factors such as political persecution, ethnic persecution and overall violence increased.

14) LEBANON

TOTAL: 360 claims

Airport: 18 claims
Land POE: 46 claims
Inland: 277 claims
BtP: 19 claims

ANALYSIS: In 2020, of the top 20 claiming countries in Canada, Lebanon had the lowest decrease in claims, with a 12% decrease overall. Despite the decrease in overall claims, Lebanon rose in rank from 34th overall in 2019, to 14th in 2020. This is the highest Lebanon has been among top source claiming countries since 2006. The consistency in refugee claims, despite COVID travel restrictions, was likely due to the increasing push factors in Lebanon including economic instability and civil unrest. Many claimants appear to have already been in Canada on a visitor visa when they claimed, likely not wanting to return to Lebanon.

15) BANGLADESH

TOTAL: 333 claims

Airport: 13 claims
Land POE: 16 claims
Inland: 282 claims
BtP: 22 claims

ANALYSIS: Despite a 63% decrease in claims, Bangladesh moved up one spot among the top claiming countries from 2019. Bangladeshi claims were predominately filed in the GTA, followed by in the QUE region. Most claims were filed inland at Etobicoke IRCC. In 2020, the proportion of Bangladeshi student claimants significantly increased, accounting for 30% of all claims filed, a 12% increase from the previous year.

16) AFGHANISTAN

TOTAL: 292

Airport: 3 claims
Land POE: 68 claims
Inland: 113 claims
BTP: 107 claims

ANALYSIS: For the first time since 2016, Afghanistan emerged as a top 20 source country, despite a 42% decrease in claims from 2019. The majority of claims were filed at land POEs and BtP in Quebec, followed by inland at Vancouver Admissions and Etobicoke IRCC. In 2020, 81% of Afghans BtP had a USNIV and 56% entered Canada within 30 days of entering the US. A multitude of push factors exist in Afghanistan, including extremist violence and violence against women that paired with strong Canadian pull factors like socioeconomic opportunities and a sizeable diaspora, will likely continue to draw Afghan nationals to Canada.

17) RWANDA

TOTAL: 277

Airport: 9 claims
Land POE: 42 claims
Inland: 174 claims
BTP: 52 claims

ANALYSIS: Claims from Rwandan nationals decreased by 62% from 2019 to 2020, but Rwanda remained a top 20 source country in 2020. The majority of claims (63%) were entered inland, primarily at Montreal immigration and Ottawa IRCC, followed by BtP in Quebec. Of the BtP claims, 98% had a USNIV and 56% entered Canada within 30 days after entering the US. Furthermore, 42% of overall claims were made by individuals with study permits.

18) ETHIOPIA

TOTAL: 237

Airport: 34 claims
Land POE: 6 claims
Inland: 147 claims
BTP: 50 claims

ANALYSIS: Though 64% of all claims by Ethiopian nationals were made between January-March of 2020, Ethiopia became a new top 20 source country in 2020. The majority of claims (62%) were made inland, primarily at Etobicoke IRCC, followed by BtP (20%) in Quebec as well as at Pearson airport (14%). Towards the end of 2020, CBSA intelligence indicated that Ethiopia was one of many African countries that was severely impacted by COVID travel restrictions. However, armed conflict and COVID have exacerbated previously existing push factors and will likely contribute to Ethiopia as a top 20 source country in 2021.

19) ALGERIA

TOTAL: 225

Airport: 22 claims
Land POE: 1 claims
Inland: 200 claims
BTP: 2 claims

ANALYSIS: In 2020, Algeria emerged as a new top 20 source country for refugee claimants to Canada. The vast majority of claims were made inland at Montreal Immigration (80%) followed by air mode at P.E Trudeau (10%) by individuals on TRVs. A minor but significant portion of claims were also made by those on study permits (11%). Basis of claim were diverse but included persecution for political beliefs, sexual orientation, ethnicity (Berbers) as well as forced marriages. Canada, in particular Quebec, may be seen as an alternative to France due to language and a large diaspora. Algeria may fall out of the top 20 source countries for 2021 once when travel restrictions ease.

20) CHILE

TOTAL: 223

Airport: 20 claims
Land POE: 21 claims
Inland: 156 claims
BTP: 26 claims

ANALYSIS: Chile's position among top source countries rose drastically in 2020, from 50th in 2019 (214 claims) to 20th in 2020 (223 claims). Likely reasons for the increase in claims were visa free travel (eTA), ongoing protests demanding reform to social programs, and an increase in claims from non-Chilean adults that have Chilean citizen children. The majority of Chilean claims were made inland (70%), primarily at Montreal Immigration and Etobicoke IRCC. However, the combination of an affirmative vote to rewrite the Chilean constitution and a very low IRB acceptance rate (0%) make it unlikely for Chile to remain a top 20 source country in 2021.

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APPENDIX
(OTHER COUNTRIES – RANK, CLAIMS & PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2019)

21. Egypt (218) (-79%)
22. Jordan (217) (-60%)
23. Cameroon (204) (-62%)
24. Sudan (198) (-79%)
25. Angola (189) (-74%)
26. Jamaica (183) (-38%)
27. Bahamas (167) (-66%)
28. Iraq (166) (-66%)
29. Stateless (162) (-75%)
30. Kenya (148) (-74%)
31. Vietnam (146) (25%)
32. Romania (145) (-77%)
33. Hungary (143) (-70%)
34. Brazil (141) (-56%)
35. Burundi (140) (-83%)
36. Ghana (136) (-43%)
37. Unspecified (136) (-43%)
38. Syria (133) (-59%)
39. El Salvador (132) (-68%)
40. Uganda (131) (-79%)
41. Nicaragua (127) (-66%)
42. Honduras (124) (-65%)
43. Yemen, Republic of (119) (-77%)
44. Cuba (112) (-42%)
45. Guatemala (106) (-40%)
46. Libya (91) (-79%)
47. Palestine (89) (-77%)
48. Eritrea (88) (-77%)
49. Philippines (86) (-20%)
50. Peru (81) (-64%)
51. Zimbabwe (79) (-71%)
52. Albania (77) (-67%)
53. Ivory Coast (73) (-52%)
54. Guinea (69) (-68%)
55. Congo, People's Republic of (67) (-35%)
56. Somali Republic (66) (-74%)
57. Senegal (65) (-66%)
58. Tunisia (64) (-2%)
59. Dominican Republic (64) (-35%)
60. Russia (61) (-61%)
61. Ukraine (61) (-66%)
62. Barbados (58) (-47%)
63. Ecuador (56) (-39%)
64. Nepal (56) (-76%)
65. Morocco (55) (-47%)
66. Kazakhstan (53) (-2%)
67. South Africa (51) (-67%)
68. Saudi Arabia (47) (-75%)
69. Liberia (47) (-65%)
70. Burkina Faso (46) (-53%)
71. Georgia (43) (-72%)
72. Poland (38) (-66%)
73. Tanzania (36) (-81%)
74. Hong Kong SAR (36) (44%)
75. Chad (34) (-86%)
76. Togolese Republic (34) (-5%)
77. Mali (33) (-65%)
78. Benin (33) (0%)
79. Spain (33) (-28%)
80. Guyana (31) (1%)
81. Argentina (30) (0%)
82. Kosovo (30) (3%)
83. Trinidad and Tobago, Republic (29) (-5%)
84. Indonesia (28) (-5%)
85. British (27) (-44%)
86. Azerbaijan (27) (-74%)
87. Mauritania (25) (-69%)
88. Sierra Leone (22) (-53%)
89. Costa Rica (21) (-28%)
90. Gambia (20) (-66%)
91. Italy (20) (-68%)
92. France (19) (-42%)
93. Djibouti (16) (-77%)
94. Israel (16) (-70%)
95. Gabon (15) (-29%)
96. Namibia (15) (1%)
97. Germany (15) (-1%)
98. Czech Republic (14) (-83%)
99. Portugal (14) (-62%)
100. Madagascar (12) (33%)
101. Panama, Republic of (12) (5%)
102. Bolivia (12) (-54%)
103. Bulgaria (12) (-86%)
104. Malawi (11) (-85%)
105. Mongolia (11) (-74%)
106. Ireland (10) (-75%)
107. Kuwait (9) (-73%)
108. St Vincent (9) (-57%)
109. Myanmar (9) (29%)
110. Mauritius (8) (-38%)
111. Antigua (8) (-65%)
112. Korea, Republic Of (South) (8) (-71%)
113. Malaysia (8) (-63%)
114. Uzbekistan (8) (33%)
115. Zambia (7) (-61%)
116. Niger (7) (-79%)
117. Saint Lucia (6) (-79%)
118. Norway (6) (0%)
119. Greece (5) (-71%)
120. Armenia (5) (-38%)
121. Moldova (5) (-44%)
122. Netherlands (5) (-87%)
123. Central African Republic (4) (-78%)
124. Guinea-Bissau (4) (0%)
125. Grenada (4) (-5%)
126. Uruguay (4) (-6%)
127. Cambodia (4) (-67%)
128. Thailand (4) (0%)
129. Sweden (4) (-8%)
130. United Arab Emirates (3) (-7%)
131. Belize (3) (2%)
132. Fiji (3) (-7%)
133. Tajikistan (3) (-67%)
134. Japan (2) (-33%)
135. Macau SAR (2) (1%)
136. Belarus (2) (-83%)
137. Belgium (2) (-84%)
138. B.N.O. (2) (-33%)
139. British Overseas Citizen (2) (0%)
140. Croatia (2) (0%)
141. Serbia (2) (-6%)
142. Comoros (1) (0%)
143. Cyprus (1) (100%) **
144. South Sudan (1) (-92%)
145. Lesotho (1) (-88%)
146. Dominica, Commonwealth of the (1) (0%)
147. Saint Kitts and Nevis, Fed of (1) (0%)
148. Paraguay (1) (-86%)
149. Australia (1) (-5%)
150. Taiwan (1) (-93%)
151. Solomons, The (1) (-67%)
152. Bhutan (1) (0%)
153. Canada (1) (100%) **
154. Slovakia (1) (-98%)
155. Denmark (1) (-67%)
156. Malta (1) (0%)
157. Kyrgyzstan (1) (-8%)
158. Latvia (1) (-67%)
159. Lithuania (1) (0%)
160. Turkmenistan (1) (-88%)
161. Austria (1) (-75%)
162. Luxembourg (1) (100%) **
163. Macedonia (1) (-86%)
164. Slovenia (1) (-5%)

** Please note that countries with no refugee claimants in 2019 have automatically been assigned an increase of 100%.

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s.16(2)(c)

Refugee Claims Analysis Report (RCAR) - Notes

The following report provides statistical information on the top 20 source countries for refugee claims in Canada for 2020 (January 1 to December 31), coupled with trend analysis, examination of push, pull and x-factors as well as forecasts for 2021. It consists of statistics from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and should not be taken as belonging solely to the CBSA.

Regions

Atlantic (ATL)
Northern Ontario (NOR)
Pacific (PAC)
Quebec (QUE)
Southern Ontario (SOR)
Greater Toronto Area (GTA)
Prairie (PRA)

Migration Statistic Section

Visas is a general term used to refer to the total Temporary Resident Visas (TRVs), study permits, work permits, Temporary Resident Permits (TRPs), Visitor Records (VRs) and all extensions that have been issued for entry into Canada; this does not include the total number of applications received or electronic Travel Authorizations (eTAs) issued.

Inadmissibility reports issued refers to the number of inadmissibility reports issued for serious concerns under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (IRPA) which consist of sections 34 (national security), 35 (crimes against humanity), 36 (1) (serious criminality), 36(2) (criminality) and 37 (organized crime).

Removals refers to the number of foreign nationals, including failed refugee claimants, removed to their country of origin or other destination countries as defined in the IRPA and its regulations. The number following total removals number refers to the overall rank the nationality was in comparison to other top removal nationalities.

Overseas interceptions refers to the total number of fraudulent interceptions; the liaison officer (LO) has grounds to suspect fraud and the air carrier is provided a "no board" recommendation. This does not include technical interceptions where an LO has provided a "no board" recommendation due to a technical, regulatory or otherwise non-fraudulent reason (e.g. expired passport). The number following total overseas interception number refers to the overall rank the nationality was in comparison to other top overseas interception nationalities.

TR Application Type of Refugee Claimants Section

This refers to the type of visas (Visitor, Study Permit, Workers Permit) claimants were on when they claimed in Canada, and includes all extensions that have been issued for entry into Canada.

Top Exploitation Method

This refers to the predominate method of exploitation that was used to enter Canada to make a refugee claim.

Data Extraction

Information on refugee claims for this report was retrieved from the CIC DWS - Enterprise Data Warehouse – Refugee Cohort Datamart, for the periods of January 1 to December 31, 2020, and January 1 to December 31, 2019. Data was pulled in January, 2021*.

Information on visas was provided by the IRCC – OPS-STATS, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020, as of January 26, 2021*.

Information on inadmissibility reports issued under s.34,35,36,37 of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA) was retrieved from the CBSA Irregular Migration Intelligence Desk for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020. Data was pulled January 2021*.

Information on removals was provided by the CBSA Removals Program, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020, as of January 5, 2021*.

Information on overseas interceptions was provided by the CBSA International Policy and Partnerships Directorate, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020, as of January 11, 2021*.

Operational Section Input

The Irregular Migration and National Security Intelligence Section (IMNSIS) wrote analysis for the 2020 refugee claim trends, 2020 trends shifts due to COVID, and the 11-20 countries placemat. IMNSIS also provided the irregular migration stats and within the top 10 countries the refugee claim information, human smuggling trends, and push and pull factors.

Strategic Section Input

The Strategic Intelligence Section (SIS) wrote analysis for the 2020 Forecast placemat, as well as the X-Factor and Forecast sections within the top 10 country placemats.

*Any subsequent data changes in the system were not captured.

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