

Immigration in Canada, Case Conference

Summary

Immigration is the act of permanently coming to live in a foreign country. Due to Canada's economic strength and stability, it is an appealing country to move to, for people around the world. However, it is important to consider the effect immigration has on not only Canada, but also on the country that is losing its citizens, since their economy faces many changes as well. The Canadian government has addressed concerns regarding the country's immigration policies for centuries. The federal, provincial and territorial governments consult with one another to establish goals and policies in regards to what the immigration expectations are in each province or territory. Millions of dollars in government budgets are set aside to speed up immigration processes and permit more refugees. To ensure economic imbalances do not occur, the government consistently regulates the market, and intervenes when necessary. In addition, immigrants increase the workforce as they fill important niches in the fast-growing and declining sectors of the economy. This benefits firms and markets since immigrants improve labour productivity and are the drivers behind industry growth. Major economic indicators, such as, employment rate, inflation, and GDP measure how the Canadian economy is impacted by immigration. Fiscal policies are adjusted based on how much the government would like to spend on immigrants and refugees. While monetary policies are adjusted by banks, according to the rate of unemployment and the number of individuals looking to borrow money. Lastly, international trade agreements and key global events such as conflicts in the Middle East and Central America have caused a surge in immigrants; these immigrants are fleeing to Canada for economic stability.

Questions

1. Is immigration beneficial to the economy?
2. Is Canada the only country impacted when immigrants enter the country? If not, which other countries are affected?
3. How do different Canadian political parties react to global crises, and what are their stances regarding immigration?
4. How are the supply and demand curves for Canadian resources affected by the large migration of citizens?
5. Which key stakeholders are affected by immigration, and how are they impacted?
6. How are key economic indicators affected by Canadian immigrants.

Background Readings

"An economics perspective on Canadian immigration."

<http://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/immigration-jobs-andcanadas-future/an-economics-perspective-on-canadian-immigration/>

"Assessing the Economic Impact of Migration." Canada Immigration and Visa Information. Canadian Immigration Services and Free Online Evaluation.
<http://www.immigration.ca/assessing-economicimpact-migration/>.

"The Economic Effect of Immigration." Hoover Institution.
<https://www.hoover.org/research/economic-effect-immigration>.

"Emigration and Its Effects on the Sending Country." Center for Research on Immigration Policy. https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monograph_reports/2006/MR244.pdf.

"Liberals facing calls for longer-term solution to illegal migration from U.S." National Post.
<http://nationalpost.com/news/politics/liberals-facing-calls-for-longer-term-solution-to-illegal-migration-from-u-s>.

"How does increasing immigration affect the economy?" Policy Options.
<http://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/november-2016/how-does-increasing-immigration-affect-economy/>.

"Immigrants cost \$23B a year: Fraser Institute report." National Post.
<http://nationalpost.com/news/canada/immigrants-cost-23b-a-year-fraser-institute-report>.