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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: The Rich World Revolts Against Sky-High Immigration

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Tweet: In the past 3 years, at least 15mm people moved to rich countries, including a net change of 3mm in the US and 1.3mm in Canada in 2023. The flood has driven down GDP per person in the UK, Germany, and Canada.

Summary: In the past three years 15m people have moved to rich countries, the biggest surge in modern history. Last year more than 3m people migrated to America on net, 1.3m went to Canada and about 700,000 turned up in Britain. The arrivals are from all over, including hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians fleeing war and also millions from India and sub-Saharan Africa. Now there are signs the boom may be coming to an end. Net migration to Canada has nearly halved from its recent peak, while in New Zealand it is falling sharply. A clampdown would benefit GDP per person—the yardstick by which economists usually assess living standards. As immigration surged in 2022 and 2023, GDP per person in Britain fell. It has tumbled in Germany. In Canada, it remains nearly 4% off its high in 2022. This has happened in part because the latest arrivals are on average less skilled than the resident population, meaning that they cannot command high salaries.

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Primary Topic: Immigration

Topics: GDP, Growth, Immigration, Op-Ed/Blog Post, Politics, Workforce

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