Data Documentation

1. CBSA, IRCC, and RCMP data

data/ircc/

Sources

- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143050/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2023.html
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143410/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2022.html
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143710/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2021.html
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143832/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2020.html
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143842/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2019.html
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522143842/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2018.html
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20240522144008/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims/asylum-claims-2017.html$

Description These are the data published by the Government of Canada on behalf of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The main page can be accessed in https://web.archive.org/web/20240520032831/https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/asylum-claims.html.

Method Webpages are downloaded from the original URL, which is also archived on the Wayback Machine. Each webpage has one year's worth of data with monthly resolution. Each webpage contains 9 tables; one from RCMP, six from CBSA, one from IRCC, and one combined CBSA and IRCC data. We aggregate each table type from 2017-2023 which results in 9 cleaned tables in the data/clean/ircc subdirectory. The raw webpages are available in data/raw/web_ircc and the R script for processing is in R/scrape ircc.R.

RCMP Interceptions

data/ircc/rcmp_interceptions.csv

Description The number of "RCMP interceptions" refers to asylum seekers apprehended between the ports of entry and does not reflect other border crossings. These numbers may be included in either CBSA or IRCC processing results as the asylum seekers are turned over by the RCMP to these agencies if a claim of refugee status is made. Numbers are manually verified and subject to change.

Year	Required	integer	column name: year
The year of entry			
Provinces The province of interception	Required	actor	column name: province
January Number of acylum claimants intercented in January	iı	nteger	column name: january

February integer column name: february Number of asylum claimants intercepted in February March integer column name: march Number of asylum claimants intercepted in March integer column name: april Number of asylum claimants intercepted in April May integer column name: may Number of asylum claimants intercepted in May integer column name: june Number of asylum claimants intercepted in June integer column name: july **July** Number of asylum claimants intercepted in July integer column name: august Number of asylum claimants intercepted in August September integer column name: september Number of asylum claimants intercepted in September October column name: october integer Number of asylum claimants intercepted in October **November** integer column name: november Number of asylum claimants intercepted in November column name: december December integer Number of asylum claimants intercepted in December integer column name: total Number of asylum claimants intercepted in a year

CBSA Air Ports of Entry

data/ircc/cbsa_air_entry.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to a CBSA air port of entry, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year
The year of entry

Provinces/Territories
2 options:

Required integer column name: year
column name: year
column name: prov_territory

- The province/territory of entry
- The national total

January Number of asylum claimants who enter in January	integer column name: january
February Number of asylum claimants who enter in February	integer column name: february
March Number of asylum claimants who enter in March	integer column name: march
April Number of asylum claimants who enter in April	integer column name: april
May Number of asylum claimants who enter in May	integer column name: may
June Number of asylum claimants who enter in June	integer column name: june
July Number of asylum claimants who enter in July	integer column name: july
August Number of asylum claimants who enter in August	integer column name: august
September Number of asylum claimants who enter in September	integer column name: september
October Number of asylum claimants who enter in October	integer column name: october
November Number of asylum claimants who enter in November	integer column name: november
December Number of asylum claimants who enter in December	integer column name: december
Total	integer column name: total

CBSA Land Ports of Entry

Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year

data/ircc/cbsa_land_entry.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to a CBSA land port of entry, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year The year of entry	Rec	quired	integer	column name: year
Provinces/Territories 2 options:	Required	factor	column	name: prov_territory

- The province/territory of entry
- The national total

January

Number of asylum claimants who enter in January

February

Number of asylum claimants who enter in February

March

Number of asylum claimants who enter in March

April

Number of asylum claimants who enter in April

May

Number of asylum claimants who enter in May

June

Number of asylum claimants who enter in June

July

Number of asylum claimants who enter in July

August

Number of asylum claimants who enter in August

September

Number of asylum claimants who enter in September

October

Number of asylum claimants who enter in October

November

Number of asylum claimants who enter in November

December

Number of asylum claimants who enter in December

Total

Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year

integer column name: january

integer column name: february

integer column name: march

integer column name: april

integer column name: may

integer column name: june

integer column name: july

integer column name: august

integer column name: september

integer column name: october

integer column name: november

integer column name: december

integer column name: total

CBSA Marine Ports of Entry

data/ircc/cbsa marine entry.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to a CBSA marine port of entry, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year

The year of entry

Required

integer

column name: year

Provinces/Territories	Required	factor	column name: prov_territory
2 options:The province/territory of entryThe national total			
January Number of asylum claimants who enter in Janua	ary	inte	ger column name: january
February Number of asylum claimants who enter in February	uary	integ	column name: february
March Number of asylum claimants who enter in Marc	eh	int	teger column name: march
April Number of asylum claimants who enter in April	1	i	nteger column name: april
May Number of asylum claimants who enter in May			integer column name: may
June Number of asylum claimants who enter in June		G i	integer column name: june
July Number of asylum claimants who enter in July			integer column name: july
August Number of asylum claimants who enter in Augu	ıst	int	eger column name: august
September Number of asylum claimants who enter in Septe	ember	intege	column name: september
October Number of asylum claimants who enter in Octo	ber	inte	ger column name: october
November Number of asylum claimants who enter in Nove	ember	intege	column name: november
December Number of asylum claimants who enter in Dece	mber	intege	column name: december
Total Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year	ar	i	nteger column name: total

CBSA All Ports of Entry (Air, Land and Marine)

data/ircc/cbsa_all_entry.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to any CBSA port of entry, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year Required integer column name: year The year of entry Required **Provinces/Territories** factor column name: prov territory 2 options: • The province/territory of entry • The national total **January** column name: january integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in January **February** integer column name: february Number of asylum claimants who enter in February March integer column name: march Number of asylum claimants who enter in March **April** integer column name: april Number of asylum claimants who enter in April May integer column name: may Number of asylum claimants who enter in May integer column name: june Number of asylum claimants who enter in June column name: july **July** integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in July August integer column name: august Number of asylum claimants who enter in August September integer column name: september Number of asylum claimants who enter in September October column name: october integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in October column name: november **November** integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in November December column name: december integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in December integer column name: total Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year

CBSA Inland Offices

data/ircc/cbsa_inland_office.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to a CBSA inland office, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other val-

ues are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year The year of entry	Required integer column name: year
Provinces/Territories 2 options: • The province/territory of entry • The national total	Required factor column name: prov_territory
January Number of asylum claimants who enter in Janua	integer column name: january
February Number of asylum claimants who enter in Febru	integer column name: february
March Number of asylum claimants who enter in March	integer column name: march
April Number of asylum claimants who enter in April	integer column name: april
May Number of asylum claimants who enter in May	integer column name: may
June Number of asylum claimants who enter in June	integer column name: june
July Number of asylum claimants who enter in July	integer column name: july
August Number of asylum claimants who enter in Augu	integer column name: august
September Number of asylum claimants who enter in September	integer column name: september
October Number of asylum claimants who enter in Octob	integer column name: october er
November Number of asylum claimants who enter in November	integer column name: november
December Number of asylum claimants who enter in December	integer column name: december
Total Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year	integer column name: total

All CBSA Asylum Claims

data/ircc/cbsa_total.csv

Description These statistics include asylum claimants intercepted by the RCMP and brought to any CBSA port of entry or inland office, and do not include asylum claims made at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada offices. Figures may vary slightly depending on the date when the claim was received.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year Required integer column name: year The year of entry CBSA designated ports of entry/inland offices Required factor column name:

cbsa office

One or a combination of these types of CBSA office:

Number of asylum claimants who enter in December

- Air Ports of Entry
- Land Ports of Entry
- Marine Ports of Entry
- All Ports of Entry (Air, Land and Marine)
- Inland Offices

Total - CBSA Land, Air and Marine port of entry and Inland	Offices
January Number of asylum claimants who enter in January	integer column name: january
February Number of asylum claimants who enter in February	integer column name: february
March Number of asylum claimants who enter in March	integer column name: march
April Number of asylum claimants who enter in April	integer column name: april
May Number of asylum claimants who enter in May	integer column name: may
June Number of asylum claimants who enter in June	integer column name: june
July Number of asylum claimants who enter in July	integer column name: july
August Number of asylum claimants who enter in August	integer column name: august
September Number of asylum claimants who enter in September	integer column name: september
October Number of asylum claimants who enter in October	integer column name: october
November Number of asylum claimants who enter in November	integer column name: november
December	integer column name: december

Total

Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year

integer column name: total

All Claims Processed by IRCC

data/ircc/ircc_processed.csv

Description The number of asylum claimants processed by IRCC.

Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Year Required integer column name: year The year of entry **Provinces/Territories** Required factor column name: prov territory 2 options: • The province/territory of entry • The national total **January** column name: january integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in January **February** integer column name: february Number of asylum claimants who enter in February integer column name: march March Number of asylum claimants who enter in March integer column name: april Number of asylum claimants who enter in April May integer column name: may Number of asylum claimants who enter in May integer column name: june Number of asylum claimants who enter in June integer column name: july Number of asylum claimants who enter in July August integer column name: august Number of asylum claimants who enter in August September integer column name: september Number of asylum claimants who enter in September October integer column name: october Number of asylum claimants who enter in October November integer column name: november Number of asylum claimants who enter in November December integer column name: december Number of asylum claimants who enter in December

Total

Total

Number of asylum claimants who enter in a year

Total Asylum Claimants Processed by CBSA and IRCC

data/ircc/
cbsa plus ircc.csv

column name: total

integer

integer

column name: total

Description Please note that all values between 0 and 5 are shown as NA. This is done to prevent individuals from being identified when data is compiled and compared to other publicly available statistics. All other values are rounded to the closest multiple of 5 for the same reason; as a result of rounding, data may not sum to the totals indicated.

Required integer column name: year Year The year of entry **Provinces/Territories** Required factor column name: prov territory 2 options: • The province/territory of entry • The national total January column name: january integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in January **February** integer column name: february Number of asylum claimants who enter in February March integer column name: march Number of asylum claimants who enter in March integer column name: april Number of asylum claimants who enter in April May integer column name: may Number of asylum claimants who enter in May integer column name: june Number of asylum claimants who enter in June July column name: july integer Number of asylum claimants who enter in July integer column name: august Number of asylum claimants who enter in August September integer column name: september Number of asylum claimants who enter in September October integer column name: october Number of asylum claimants who enter in October November integer column name: november Number of asylum claimants who enter in November December integer column name: december Number of asylum claimants who enter in December

2. IRB Irregular crossers claims data

data/quarterly_irregular_claims/

Sources

- https://web.archive.org/web/20190106121256/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20190512124604/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20190618052604/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20190901103128/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20191122232212/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20200330154348/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20200920004722/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20210308214510/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx\\$
- https://web.archive.org/web/20210630215252/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20211110011339/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20220119101359/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- https://web.archive.org/web/20220511213826/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20220630141929/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20221216054147/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20230322122253/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx\\$
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20230915142057/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $\bullet\ https://web.archive.org/web/20231202033431/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx$
- $•\ https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145305/https://irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/Pages/irregular-border-crossers-countries.aspx\\$

Description This is data that was published by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) on the number of claims made to the Refugee Protection Division (RPD), from 2017 February onwards.

Method The same webpage at different time periods is accessed through the Wayback Machine. The webpage is updated quarterly, though some periods are not archived on the Wayback Machine, and as

such are missing time periods. The webpage at different times each contain one table. We aggregated data from 2017-2024, using Excel to replace '-' values with NA, creating the quarter name, year, and number of quarters represented columns to represent time, and cleaning country names. This results in 1 cleaned table in the data/clean/quarterly irregular claims subdirectory. The raw webpages are available in data/raw/web quarterly irregular claims.

IRB Irregular crossers claims data

data/quarterly_irregular_claims/ irregular claims.csv

Description This is data that was published by the Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) on the number of claims made to the Refugee Protection Division (RPD), from 2017 Feburary onwards.

Ouarter name Required character column name: quarter name The year and month of the time period integer column name: year Year Required The year of claims Number of quarters represented Required integer column name: number of quarters represented The number of quarters observed starting from 2017 feburary factor Country of alleged persecution Required column name: country The first listed country of alleged persecution as entered into the IRB case management system by the officer from CBSA or IRCC when the claim was made and referred to the RPD. integer column name: intake The number of claims received by the RPD by irregular border crossers Accepted integer column name: accepted The RPD has determined that the claimant is either a Convention refugee or a person in need of protection Rejected integer column name: rejected The RPD has determined that the claimant is not a Convention refugee or a person in need of protection. integer column name: abandoned

Abandoned

The RPD has declared that the claim has been abandoned because, for example, the completed Basis of Claim Form was not provided on time, the claimant's current and correct contact information was not provided, or the claimant did not attend their refugee protection claim hearing or the special hearing on the abandonment of the claim (if required).

Withdrawn or other integer column name: withdrawn other

Withdrawn describes cases in which the claimant does not continue with their claim. The claimant can decide to withdraw their claim before the hearing upon written notice to the RPD. Once substantive evidence has been accepted at a hearing, the claimant must make an application to the RPD to be able to withdraw their claim. Other describes cases in which the proceeding is terminated upon notice from a CBSA officer because the claimant is not eligible to claim refugee protection (e.g., determined inadmissible to Canada on grounds of serious criminality or organized criminality) or other situations such as when the claimant has passed away.

Total integer column name: total Total of all claims accepted, rejected, abandoned, withdrawn & other. Claims finalized in the time period indicated may have been referred to the RPD in a previous time period.

Pending at the end of period

All claims that have not been finalized by the end of the identified time period.

3. RAD appeals data

data/rad/

Sources

- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522150106/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2023.aspx
- https://web.archive.org/web/20240522150030/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2021.aspx
- $\bullet \ https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145918/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2020.aspx$
- $\verb| https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145650/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2019.aspx| | Pages/RADStat2019.aspx| | Pages/RADStat2019.aspx|$
- $\bullet \ https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145912/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2018.aspx$
- $\verb| https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145909/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/RADStat2017.aspx| | to the property of the property of$

Description This data is published by the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) on the number of yearly asylum appeals processed by its Refugee Appeals Division (RAD). The main page can be accessed in https://web.archive.org/web/20240522145650/https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/statistics/appeals/Pages/index.aspx.

Method Webpages are downloaded from the original URL, which is also archived on the Wayback Machine. Each webpage has one year's worth of data in one table. We aggregate each table type from 2017-2023 which results in one cleaned table in the data/clean/rad subdirectory. The raw webpages are available in data/raw/web rad and the R script for processing is in R/scrape rad.R.

Appeals by Country of Alleged Persecution

data/rad/rad_appeals.csv

Description The table includes all intake: appeals by the claimant or by the Minister that have not yet been decided by the Refugee Appeal Division (RAD), and appeals that have been returned to the RAD from the Federal Court.

Appeals finalized in a given year may have been filed in a previous year.

The country of alleged persecution in the table below corresponds to the first listed country of alleged persecution as identified by the claimant when they made their claim before the Refugee Protection Division (RPD), and which was entered in the case management system.

Only countries for which an appeal was filed, finalized, or pending within this reporting period are displayed.

The table below reflects the data on countries contained within the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) case management system and is used solely to support the refugee determination process.

The fact that these countries are listed should not be construed as implying that the IRB recognizes these particular countries' sovereignty or political status.

Furthermore, country names may not accurately reflect the current geopolitical situation; rather, they reflect the information as it currently exists in the IRB case management system and some are corrected by researchers for consistency.

Year

Required

Required

integer

factor

column name: year

column name: country

The year of appeal

Country

One of:

- Refugee's country of origin
- Stateless
- Unknown
- Blank

Merit

logical

column name: merit

Whether the appeals are read by the RPD.

- TRUE: Appeals finalized with an analysis of the substance of the RPD decision.
- FALSE: Appeals dismissed and finalized without an analysis of the substance of the RPD decision.

Outcome

Required

factor

column name: outcome

One of 9 possible outcomes:

- Filed: New appeals filed to the RAD.
- Dismissed Lack of RAD Jurisdiction: Certain types of RPD decisions cannot be appealed to the RAD —for example, claims of designated foreign nationals, rejected claims where the RPD stated that the claim had no credible basis, rejected claims that were referred as an exception under the Safe Third Country Agreement, and claims that were determined by the RPD to be abandoned. Note: Until August 2014, this included appeals filed by nationals of designated countries of origin.
- Dismissed Appeal not Perfected: After the filing of a notice of appeal, a record that complies with the RAD rules was not submitted by the appellant to the RAD, or not within the proper time limit.
- Dismissed Withdrawn, Abandoned & Other: Other reasons or default in the proceedings that led the RAD to dismiss the appeal without an analysis of the merits.
- Dismissed Confirmed RPD: The RAD has confirmed the determination of the RPD, meaning that the appeal is dismissed.
- Allowed Referred Back: The RAD has allowed the appeal and referred the matter to the RPD for redetermination, giving the directions to the RPD that it considers appropriate.
- Allowed Substituted Determination: The RAD has allowed the appeal, set aside the RPD determination and substituted a determination that, in its opinion, should have been made.
- Total Finalizations: All appeals finalized on merit or non-merit during the time period indicated. Appeals may have been filed in a previous time period.
- Pending: All appeals that have not been finalized.

Count

integer

column name: count

Number of appeals