Big moves. A changing trend.

BC & Alberta migration, viewed over time.
A sourced briefing for people planning a move.



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The surge was real. So is the slowdown. This report charts both directions of movement, the net result, and Alberta's broader growth story.

21,409	+1,647	+3.09%
BC to Alberta 2025/26 estimate	Net from BC to Alberta 2025/26 estimate	Edmonton metro growth July 2024 to July 2025

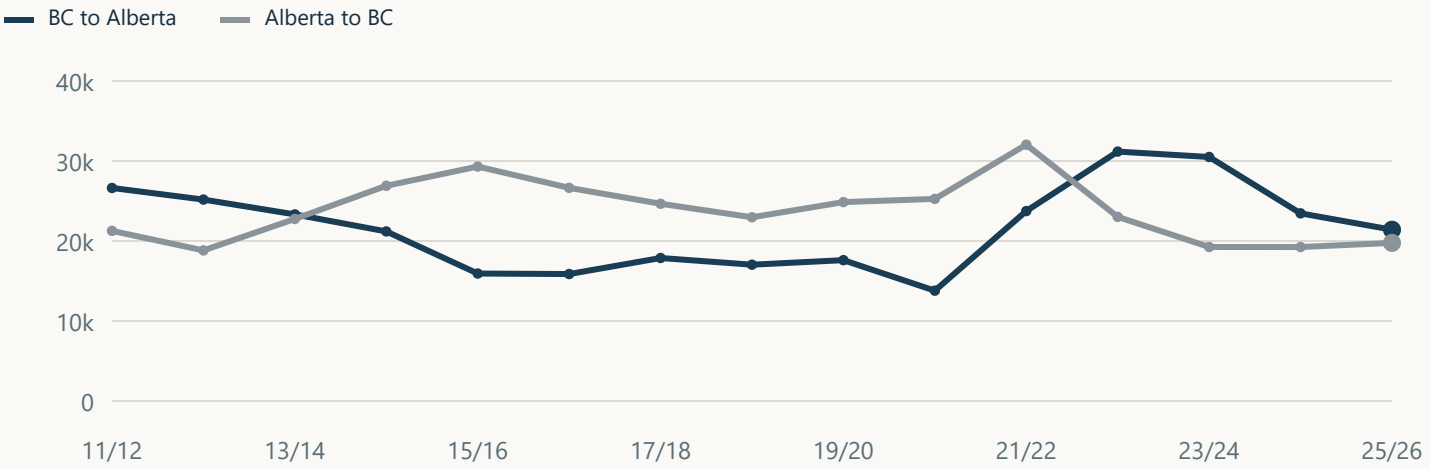
Latest periods are preliminary. Annual migration figures cover July through June; metro growth includes every source of population change. Sources and caveats on page 4.

Two directions. One net result.

Gross movement tells one story. Subtracting the return flow shows what Alberta actually gained from BC.

People moving in each direction

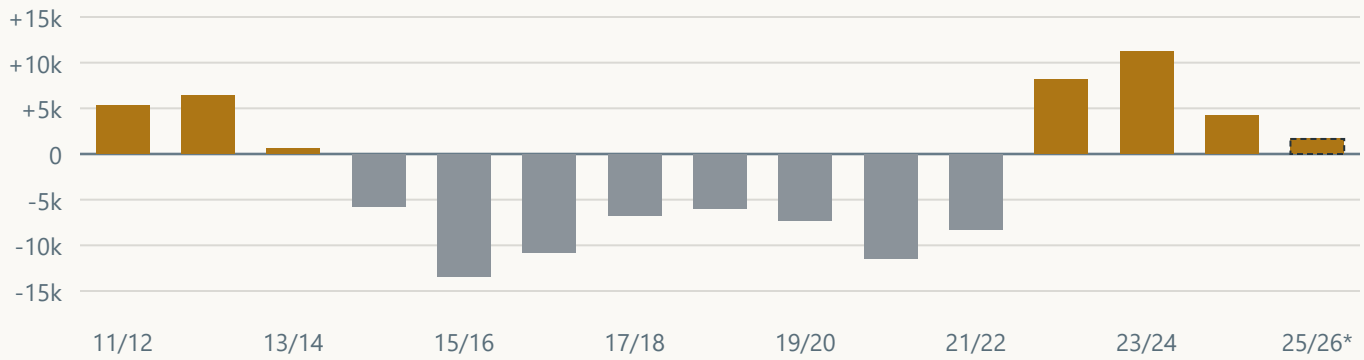
Persons / July-June / 15 periods



Statistics Canada 17-10-0022-01. Latest: 21,409 BC to AB; 19,762 AB to BC. 2025/26 preliminary.

The net balance swings both ways

Positive = Alberta gained / negative = BC gained



Same table. Net = BC-to-Alberta minus Alberta-to-BC. *Dashed final bar: preliminary estimate.

The recent surge has cooled.

Net movement to Alberta was +11,252 in 2023/24, +4,211 in 2024/25, and +1,647 in 2025/26. That last figure is 85% below the 2023/24 surge.

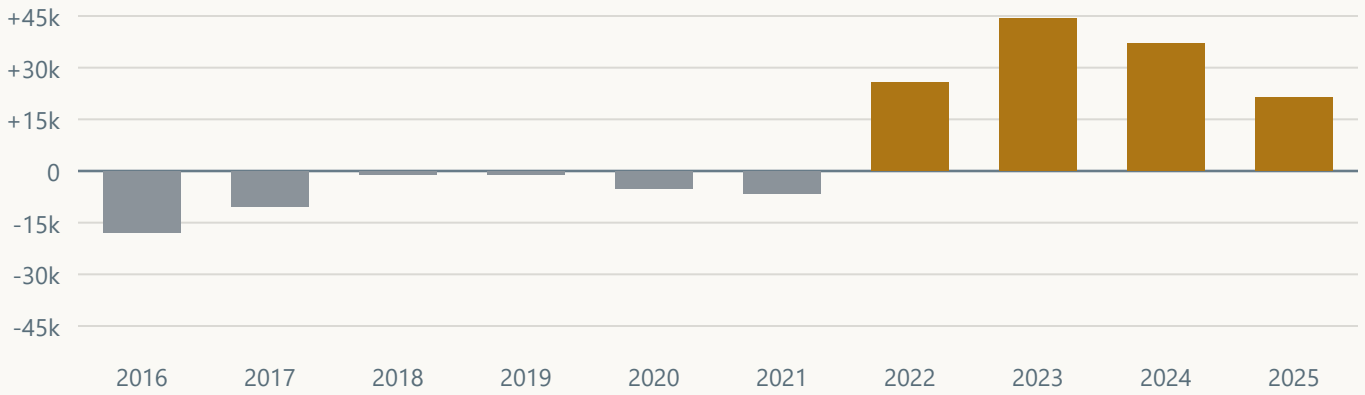
Do not read this as a forecast: 2025/26 is preliminary and the estimation method changed. The history does not support an uninterrupted rise.

A provincial draw. Growing metro areas.

BC is only one part of Alberta's population story. The broader figures use different measures, so they are shown separately.

Alberta's net gain from the rest of Canada

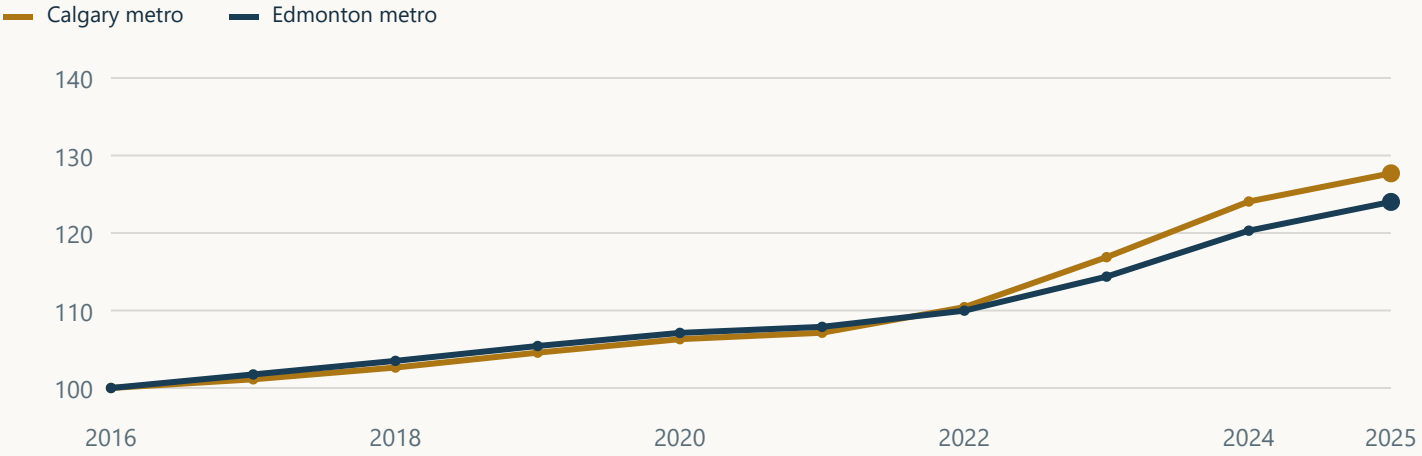
Persons / all provinces / calendar years



Statistics Canada 17-10-0020-01. Annual bars sum four calendar quarters. This is not the BC-only balance.

Calgary & Edmonton population growth

July 1 estimates / index: 2016 = 100



Statistics Canada 17-10-0148-01, constant 2021 boundaries. Index measures cumulative growth, not migration alone. 2025 preliminary.

1,836,012

Calgary metro / July 2025
+52,351 people in a year
+27.70% since 2016

1,692,385

Edmonton metro / July 2025
+50,717 people in a year
+24.01% since 2016

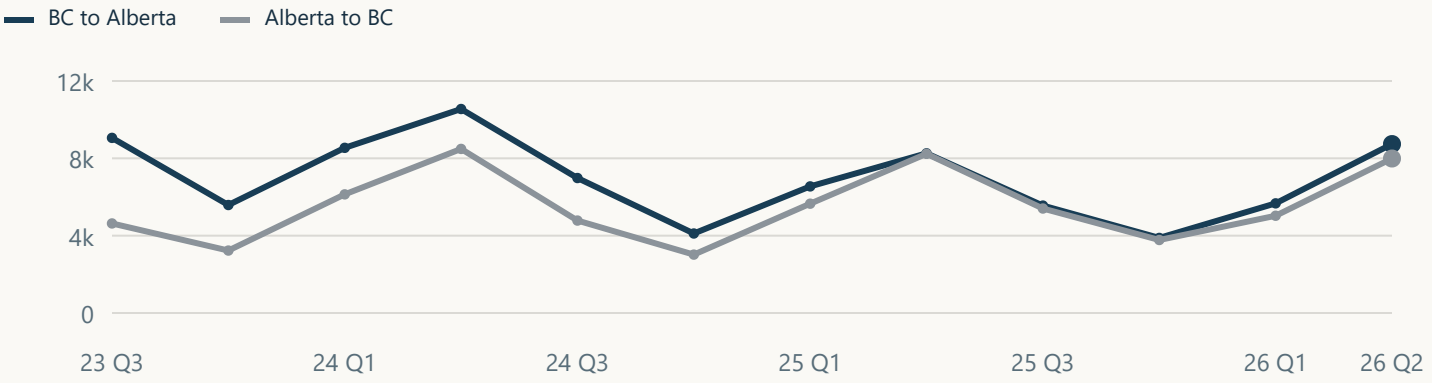
Alberta led provinces in net interprovincial inflow in Q2 2026: +5,893 people from the rest of Canada (preliminary). Source: Alberta.ca, Q2 2026 highlights. This ranking does not mean every BC-to-Alberta measure is accelerating.

The latest pulse. The limits of the data.

People move in both directions, and quarterly patterns are seasonal. A spring quarter is not an annual total.

Recent quarterly moves

Not seasonally adjusted / persons



Statistics Canada 17-10-0045-01. Q2 2026: 8,738 BC to AB; 7,991 AB to BC; net +747. Latest quarter preliminary.

The annual numbers behind the recent shift

July-June	BC to AB	AB to BC	Net to AB
23/24	30,502	19,250	+11,252
24/25	23,456	19,245	+4,211
25/26*	21,409	19,762	+1,647

What this can tell you

Whether movement is rising, cooling or reversing. It does not reveal why each person moved, their home budget, or whether a move is right for your family.

What to compare carefully

*2025/26 is preliminary and uses a changed method. Quarterly gross flows must not be summed to match the annual gross estimates. Net flows can be summed.

Source notes / retrieved 1 October 2026

1. 17-10-0022-01: annual origin-destination migration; released 23 September 2026. Annual periods: July 1 to June 30.
2. 17-10-0045-01: quarterly origin-destination migration; released 23 September 2026. Latest: Q2 2026.
3. 17-10-0020-01: Alberta totals across all provinces. The bars on page 3 sum four calendar quarters.
4. 17-10-0148-01: metro population, total gender/all ages, 2021 boundaries; released 14 January 2026. 2025 preliminary.

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