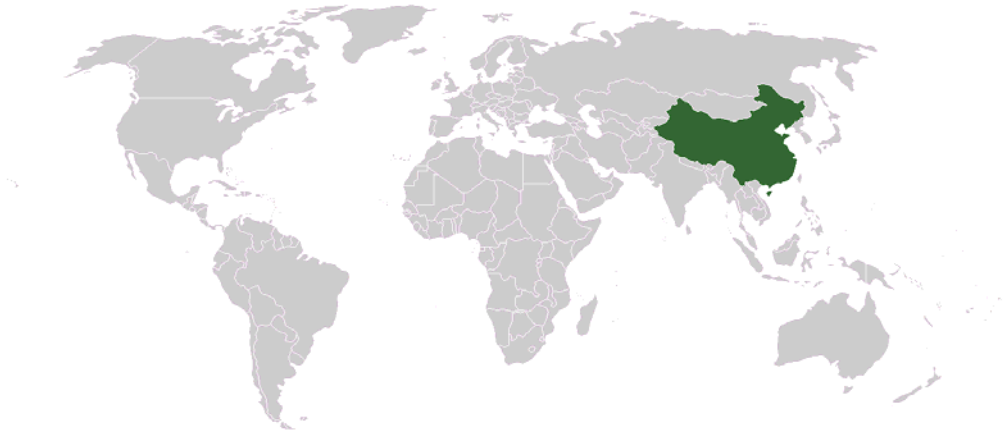


PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA



Area- 9 596 960 km²

Population- 1 315 844 000
(largest population of any country in the world!)

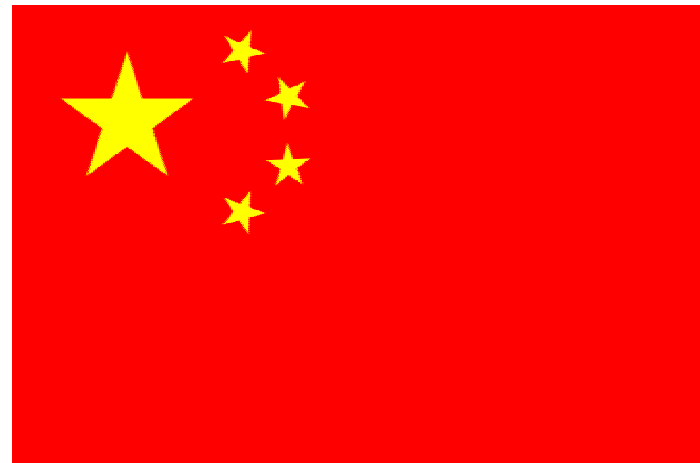
Capital- Beijing

Language- Chinese (includes a group of languages and dialects)

Government- Socialist Republic

Economy- Mixed economy (command and market). The fourth largest economy in the world by GDP.

Geography- A huge variety of Landscapes and climates, including plains, mountains, and deserts



The Chinese in Canada

Did you know?

Thousands of Chinese immigrants worked to build the Canada Pacific Railway during the 1880s. They often worked in poor and unsafe conditions, and faced discrimination.

Today, Chinese Canadians are the largest ethno-racial group in Canada, making up 3.5% of the country's total population. Most live in Toronto or Vancouver.

Many Chinese who move to Canada today come to join family, as well as for school and work.

Key periods in Chinese immigration to Canada:

1850s-1923: thousands of Chinese (mostly men) come to Canada for work.

1923: the Canadian government passes the Chinese Immigration Act, banning Chinese immigration to Canada.

After World War II: laws are changed and Chinese are allowed to come to Canada again. Hong Kong has been a major source of Chinese immigrants since the 1970s.



"Chinatown" in Toronto, near Spadina and Dundas St.

ECUADOR



Area- 256 370 km²

Population- 13 778 000

Capital- Quito

Language- Spanish

Government- Republic

Economy- Market economy. The world's largest exporter of bananas!

Geography- Coastal regions, mountains, rain forests, and the Galapagos Islands. Temperatures are hot throughout the year because the country straddles the equator (that's where it gets its name!)



Ecuadorians in Canada

Thousands of people came to Canada from Ecuador in the 1960s and 70s.

Many were attracted to Canada because of opportunities for better education and employment.

The estimated number of Ecuadorians currently living in Canada is around 18,000.

Toronto has the largest Latin American community in Canada, including people from Ecuador, Argentina, Chile, and Central America.

Did you know?

Soccer clubs are an important way for Ecuadorians living in Toronto to maintain ties to their community.



GREECE



Area - 131 900 km²

Population – 11 244 118

Capital - Athens

Language - Greek

Government –Parliamentary Republic

Economy – Market economy. Tourism is an important sector of the economy.

Geography – A mix of hills, mountains, forests, plains, and islands. Temperatures are cool and wet in the winter and hot and dry in the summer.



Greeks in Canada

There were three main waves of Greek immigration to Canada in the 20th century: the early 1900s, 1931-44, and 1946-74.

In the early 1900s, poverty and political persecution pushed some Greeks to immigrate to Canada, in search of a better life.

During the first part of the 20th century, the Canadian government placed restrictions on immigrants from Greece and other Eastern European countries, who were considered “undesirable.” Restrictions on immigrants from these countries were lifted by the late 1960s.

Today Toronto has a large and vibrant Greek population, concentrated in the area known as “the Danforth.”

Did you know?

The Greek civilization has existed for over 3,000 years!



“Taste of the Danforth” –an annual festival held in Toronto, celebrating Greek culture.

HUNGARY



Area- 93 030 km²

Population- 10 076 581

Capital- Budapest

Language- Hungarian

Government- Parliamentary Republic

Economy- Market economy. Trades with other European countries.

Geography- Mainly flat with some rolling hills. Cold winters and hot summers.



Hungarians in Canada

Hungarian immigrants came to Canada in five waves:

“Pioneers” (1885–1914)

Inter-war arrivals (1924–31)

Post war displaced persons
(1947–53)

1956 refugees (late 1956 to 1959)

Post-1960 newcomers

Did you know?

Hungarians came to Canada for lots of different reasons- to make money, for adventure, to escape poverty and war, and to attend school.

Today over 200,000 people living in Canada identify themselves as “Hungarian.” Toronto has the largest population of Hungarian-Canadians in Canada. There are many businesses owned by Hungarian families in the city.



A traditional Hungarian dish at a Toronto restaurant.

INDIA



Area- 3 166 414 km²

Population- 1 103 371 000 (2nd largest population in the world!)

Capital- New Dehli

Language- Hindi, English + 21 other official languages

Government- Federal Republic

Economy- Mixed economy. India's economy is growing rapidly, however, poverty remains a major problem.

Geography- Contains the Himalayas, plains, and many rivers. The climate ranges from temperate to tropical.



Indians in Canada

The first Indian immigrants to Canada were ten men from Punjab, who arrived in Vancouver in 1903.

Starting in the 1950s, larger numbers of diverse immigrants began arriving from all parts of India.

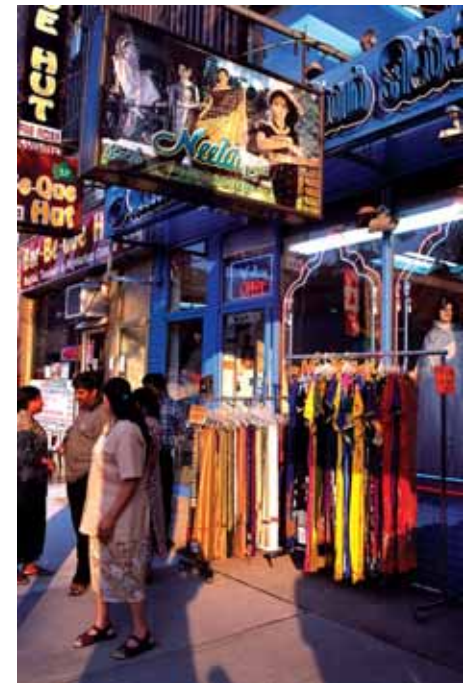
People of Indian origin have come to Canada via Africa, the Caribbean, the UK, America, and Oceania.

Today, Indian Canadians are the second largest ethno-racial group in Canada. Roughly 30,000 Indians have come to Canada each year since the late 1990s.

The estimated Indo-Canadian population of Toronto is 345,855 people.

Did you know?

The area of downtown Toronto near Gerrard and Coxwell is known as "Little India" because of the large number of Indian, Pakistani, and Sri Lankan shops and restaurants.



Little India, Toronto

ITALY



Area- 301 318 km²

Population- 58 863 156

Capital- Rome

Language- Italian

Government- Parliamentary Republic

Economy- Market economy. Focuses on processing and manufacturing goods.

Geography- From coastal to mountainous regions, with very diverse temperatures.



Italians in Canada

The first Italians to come to Canada were explorers, in the 1600s.

During the 1800s most Italian immigrants came to Canada for work. Many of them worked on farms or helped to build the railroad.

Italian immigrants of the early 1900s played a part in transforming Toronto into the city it is today. Many of them worked to build new homes, buildings, sewers and tunnels, roads and sidewalks.

By the end of World War I many large cities in Canada had a neighbourhood called "Little Italy."

Did you know?

Over 1 million people in Canada identify themselves as Italian! They are the 6th largest ethnic group in the country. Toronto has the largest population of Italians, at almost half a million.



Street signs in Toronto's Little Italy on College St. West.

POLAND



Area – 312 683 km²

Population – 38 122 000

Capital - Warsaw

Language - Polish

Government - Parliamentary Republic

Economy – Mixed economy. Previously a command economy, it is now becoming a market economy.

Geography – Mostly low-lying plains, with several large rivers. Temperatures are moderate.



Poles in Canada

In the 19th century the Canadian government encouraged Poles to settle in rural areas, especially as farmers. Others found work in mining, lumber camps, and in railway construction.

With the end of World War II, 64,000 Polish refugees and exiles came to Canada. During the 1940s/1950s a Polish neighbourhood began to develop around Roncesvalles in Toronto's West End.

In 2001, 817,000 Canadians claimed full or partial Polish ancestry.

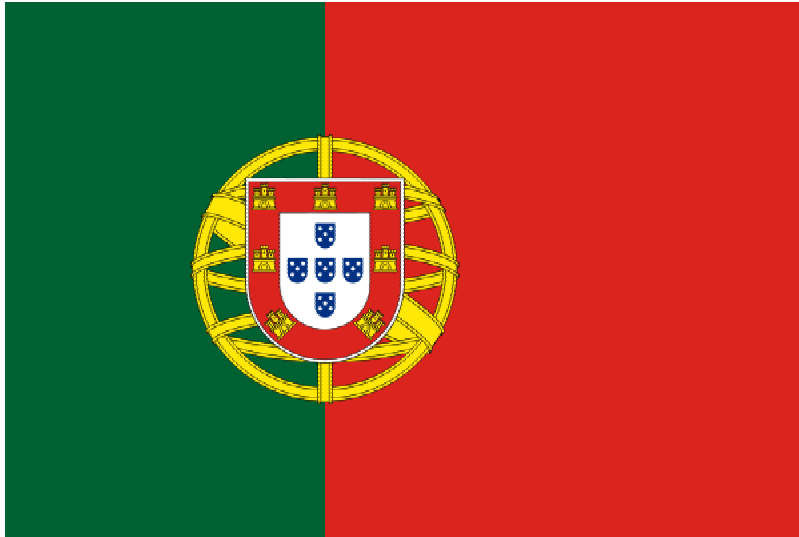
Did you know?

Poland's geographical borders and political status changed many times in its history, due to its strategic location in Europe.



Polish restaurant on Roncesvalles Ave., in Toronto

PORTUGAL



Area- 92 391 km²

Population- 10 605 870

Capital- Lisbon

Language- Portuguese

Government- Parliamentary Democracy

Economy- Market economy. Portugal is the world leader in cork production.

Geography- Mountains in the north, rolling plains in the south, and islands. It is one of the warmest countries in Europe, and has many popular beach resorts.



The Portuguese in Canada

Portuguese explorers were some of the first Europeans to reach Canada, as early as the 1400s.

Starting in the 1950s, many Portuguese immigrants came to Canada to work on farms or on the railroad.

Today there are over 350,000 people of Portuguese background living in Canada, with over 170,000 living in Toronto.

Many Portuguese people in Toronto live in the neighbourhood known as "Portugal Village" near Dundas and Bathurst Street.

Did you know?

The majority of Portuguese immigrants to Canada come from the Azores- a cluster of small islands over 1,000 km west of the coast of Portugal.



Street signs in Toronto's Portugal Village.

RUSSIA



Area- 17 075 400 km² (the largest country in the world!)

Population- 142 400 000

Capital- Moscow

Language- Russian

Government- Federal Republic

Economy- Market economy. Russia has many important natural resources, including fuel, minerals, and fish.

Geography- A great variety of landscapes and climates, from arctic to sub-tropical!



Russians in Canada

Russians have migrated to Canada in 4 main waves:

1700s: mainly fur traders

1890s-1914: mainly Russian Jews

1919-1939: people fleeing civil war, following the Russian Revolution

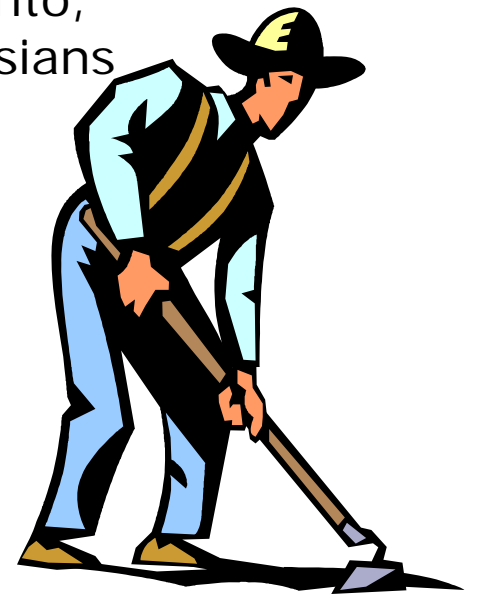
1970s-present: many different types of people

Many Russian immigrants to Canada settled in the Prairies and worked on farms, just like they had back home.

Others moved to the big cities such as Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver. Today there are roughly 158,850 Russians living in Canada.

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Did you know?

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In Canada, the term "Russian" can refer to a number of different people (immigrants from Russia, Baltic countries, religious groups, and more).
.....



SOMALIA



Area – 637 657 km²

Population – 8 863 338

Capital – Mogadishu

Languages – Somali

Government – Transitional
Federal Government

Economy –Market economy.
Agriculture is the most important
sector.

Geography – Somalia has the
longest coastline in Africa! It lies
on the equator and has very hot
temperatures, and seasonal
monsoons.



Somalis in Canada

There were very few Somalis in Canada before the late 1980s.

Beginning in the late 1980s, political strife led a large number of Somalis to flee to Canada. Somalis became the second largest source of refugee claimants in Canada.

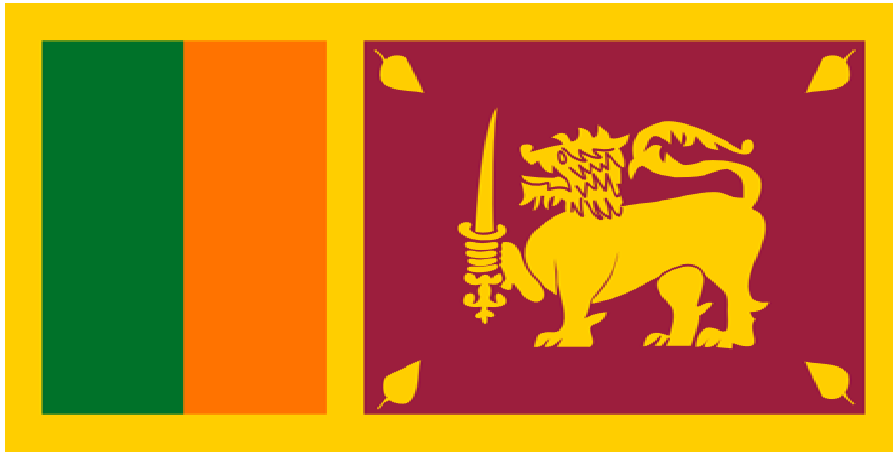
By the end of 1993, there were 13,872 Somalis who were permanent residents in Canada, the majority living in Ontario.

Did you know?
Many Somali immigrants settled in the west end of Toronto, in Etobicoke, where they had friends and family.



Almost all Somalis are Muslim, and their religion has remained an important part of their identity in Canada.

SRI LANKA



Area- 65 610 km²

Population- 20 743 00

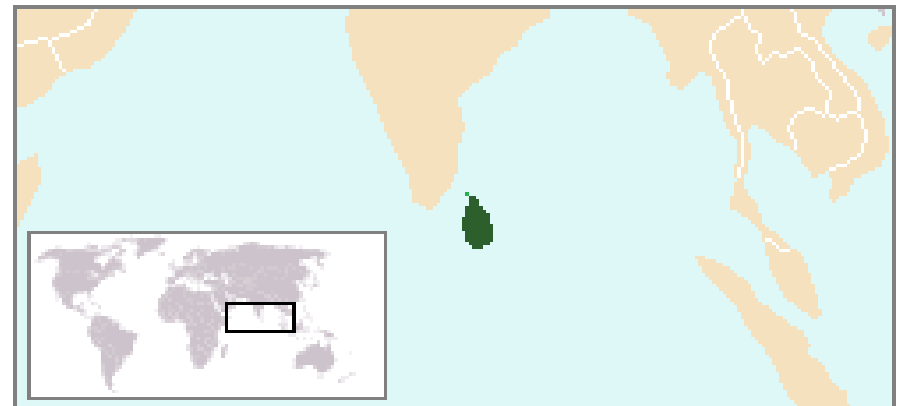
Capital- Sri Jayawardenapura-Kotte and Colombo.

Language- Sinhala and Tamil

Government- Democratic Socialist Republic

Economy- Mixed economy. Ceylon tea is Sri Lanka's most famous export.

Geography- An island in the Indian Ocean, it is mostly covered by rolling plains, with mountains in the centre. The climate is tropical, with high temperatures and a monsoon season.



Sri Lankans in Canada

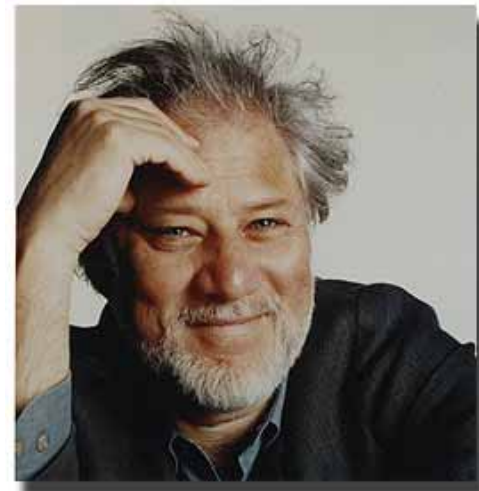
By the middle of the 20th century, the Canadian government had lifted its restrictions on Asian immigrants. Sri Lankans were among those who came to Canada and filled much needed positions in the job market.

With the outbreak of civil war in Sri Lanka in the 1980s, thousands of Sri Lankan Tamils fled to safety in Canada.

In 2001, 61 315 Canadians identified themselves as having Sri Lankan ancestry.

Did you know?

Toronto is home to the largest Sri Lankan population in North America!



Michael Ondaatje, a famous Canadian writer, was born in Sri Lanka.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



Area – 5 128km²

Population – 1 305 000

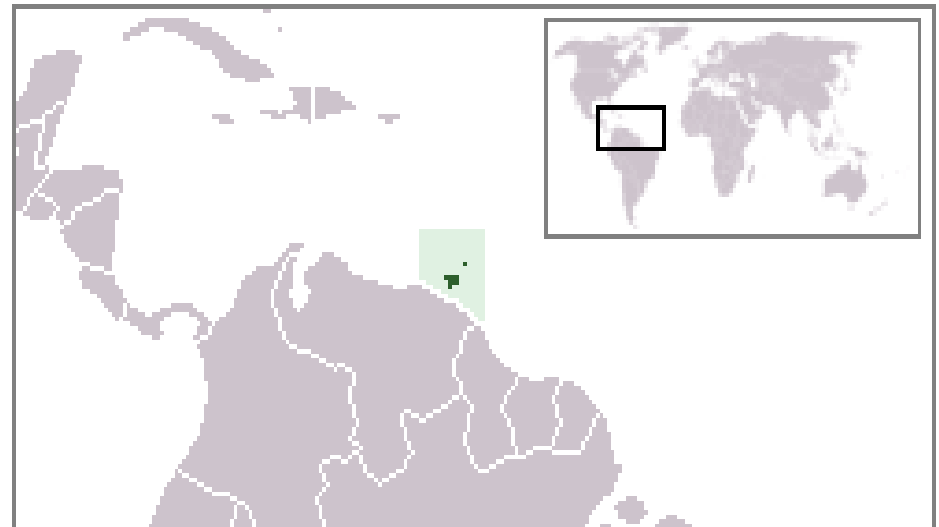
Capital - Port of Spain

Language – English

Government – Republic

Economy – Market economy.
Based on exports and tourism.

Geography – A mixture of plains and mountains. It has a tropical climate with wet and dry seasons.



Trinidadians in Canada

Before 1967, very few Trinidadians were admitted to Canada. Those who were admitted only performed certain jobs- in mines, shipyards, on the railway, and as domestic servants.

With changes to discriminatory immigration policies in 1967, many more Trinidadians were allowed to enter Canada- over 100,000 people between 1967 and 1990.

Did you know?

Trinidad is a very diverse country, and is home to people of African, Asian, Indian, European, and mixed backgrounds.

65% of Trinidadians immigrants have settled in Ontario, mostly in Toronto, in the neighbourhoods around Bloor and Bathurst, Pape and Eglinton, Jane and Finch, Lawrence and Victoria Park, and Keele and Sheppard.

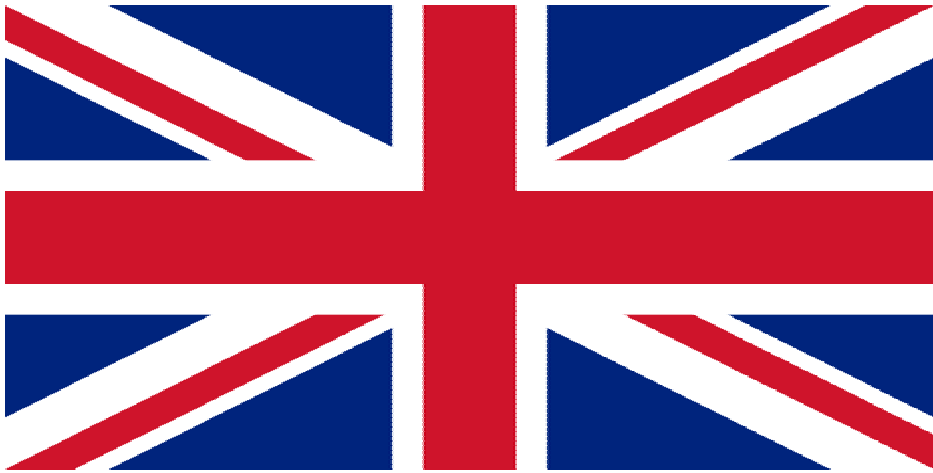
The Trinidadian community is involved in the annual Caribana festivals held in Toronto.



Participant in Toronto's Caribana festival.

THE UNITED KINGDOM

The UK includes 4 countries: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland



Area- 244 820 km²

Population- 60 209 500

Capital- London

Language- English

Government- Constitutional Monarchy

Economy- Market economy. London is the world's largest financial sector.

Geography- Rolling lowlands, with some mountainous terrain, and a temperate climate.



The British in Canada

The term “British” is often used to refer to people from the four countries of the United Kingdom- England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

British people have been coming to Canada since the 1400s! Some of the earliest were merchants fishing off the coast of Newfoundland.

Between 1901 and 1914 nearly 1 200 000 people from the British Isles immigrated to Canada.

Did you know?

The old name for Toronto was York! It was named after an Englishman, the Duke of York.

Children from Britain have immigrated to Canada by themselves at different times in history.

Between 1873 and 1930, 95,016 children were brought to Canada to work on farms and as domestic servants.

During World War II, almost 8,000 British children were evacuated to Canada to escape bombing in England.



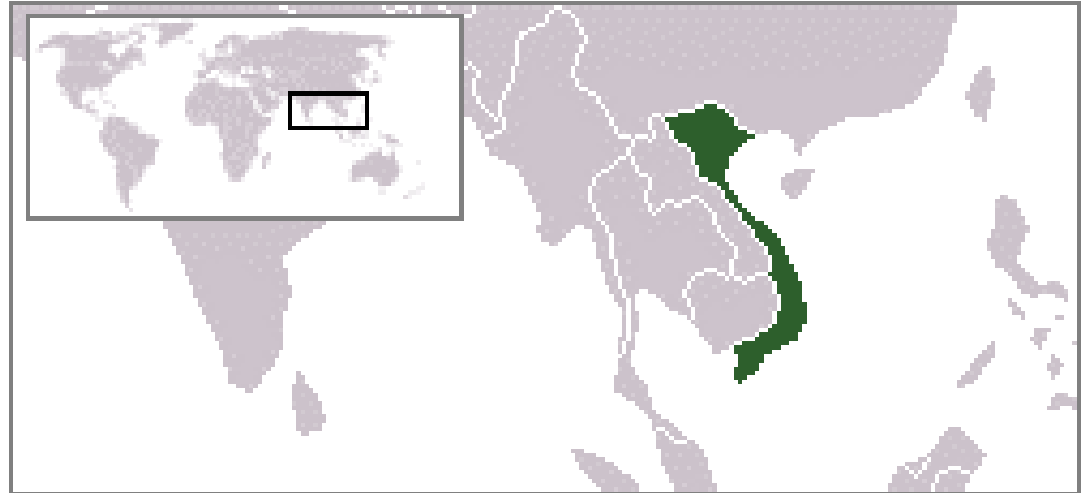
VIETNAM

Area- 331 689 km²

Population- 85 238 000

Capital- Hanoi

Language- Vietnamese



Government- Socialist Republic

Economy- Market economy. The largest producer of cashew nuts, and second largest exporter of rice in the world.

Geography- Mountains, forests, and Plains. A tropical monsoon climate.

The Vietnamese in Canada

The first groups of Vietnamese came to Canada as university students in the 1950s.

Following World War II, there was political upheaval and war in Vietnam, causing many people to leave the country.

Many Vietnamese people came to Canada as immigrants and refugees—over 140,000 people in all! Some of the refugees who came from Vietnam became known as “Boat People.”

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Did you know?
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- Toronto has the largest Vietnamese population in Canada at almost 25,000 people!
 - Vietnamese-Canadians work in almost all types of jobs, including small businesses, professions, and agriculture.
-



Vietnamese-owned family business in Toronto.

RUSSIA



Area- 17 075 400 km² (the largest country in the world!)

Population- 142 400 000

Capital- Moscow

Language- Russian

Government- Federal Republic

Economy- Market economy. Russia possesses many important natural resources, including fuel, minerals, and fish.

Geography- A great variety of landscapes and climates, from arctic to sub-tropical!



Russian Jews in Canada

The term “Russian Jew” can refer to people originally from Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, and Ukraine. Between the 1880s and 1930 over 70,000 Jews emigrated to Canada from Russia.

Jews left Russia at this time to escape the riots and violence directed at them by the government (called “pogroms”) and also for economic opportunities.

In Toronto, many Russian Jews first settled in the area known as “the Ward,” near Queen and University, and later in Kensington Market. Many were working class, and made a living as shopkeepers, peddlers or in the clothing and textile industries.

Did you know?

Today Canada is home to Jews from all over the globe, and has fourth largest Jewish population in the world!



“The Ward,” Toronto, 1912.