**ARE REFUGEES GOOD FOR CANADA?**

**YES!**

Statistics show that refugees not only benefit from safety in Canada, but they also embrace the opportunity to build a new life. Over time, they make important contributions to the country’s economy, and to their communities.

Refugees are hardworking people and contribute to Canada’s economy. They have an unemployment rate of 9%, close to that of Canadian citizens by birth (6%).

Refugees are on average 9.5 years younger than people born in Canada, which means they are more likely to be of working-age.

Refugees often come to Canada early in their lives, which means they have many years to work and contribute to Canada’s economy. Refugees embrace Canada and are committed to their communities. They have the highest citizenship rate of all immigration categories (89%).

Refugees work in skilled professions. Half are employed in management and professional or college and apprenticeship training jobs.

Refugee children perform as well in school as Canadian-born children, and their knowledge and skills contribute greatly to Canada’s workforce.

Refugees create jobs for both themselves and other Canadians. Almost half of all refugees in Canada live in smaller cities and towns.

Refugees work hard to prosper and join Canada’s middle-class. One in four earned between $40,000 - $79,999 annually, similar to statistics for Canadians.

Refugees buy houses and put down roots in Canadian communities. Two out of three refugees in Canada become home owners after ten years.

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Sources: Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC); Statistics Canada; UNHCR; unhcr.ca; Twitter: @UNHCRCanada