

## Refugee youth reflect on 'becoming Canadian'

### Refugee youth in western Canadian cities: Perceptions of, identification with, and affinity to Canada

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**SUMMARY:** The purpose of this research was to shed light on the perceptions of, identification with, and affinity to Canada among refugee youth in Western Canada.

**LINK:** Click [here](#) to read the executive summary; click [here](#) for the research report.

**The majority of refugee youth surveyed had positive perceptions of Canada and of Canadians. They felt a strong sense of identification with and affinity to Canada.**

**While they acknowledged some problems and challenges, most refugee youth:**

Identify with and feel a stronger affinity to Canada than to the countries where their parents were born

Feel they are integrating and becoming Canadian

Are happy about being in Canada

Feel public opinion toward refugees and immigrants is positive

Say Canadians generally treat them well, and welcome and accept them

Value Canadian citizenship

### Recommendations:

Better services and supports, such as:

- Language training
- Education and training programs
- Support finding employment
- Greater opportunities to meet people within and beyond their ethnocultural groups
- Increased and expedited family reunification



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