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## In Alberta Is The Place To Be!

Although the weather in Alberta during the April-June period can be a little sketchy at the best of times (this year being no exception), that was not enough to stop more Canadians from moving here than any other province during the second quarter of 2009.

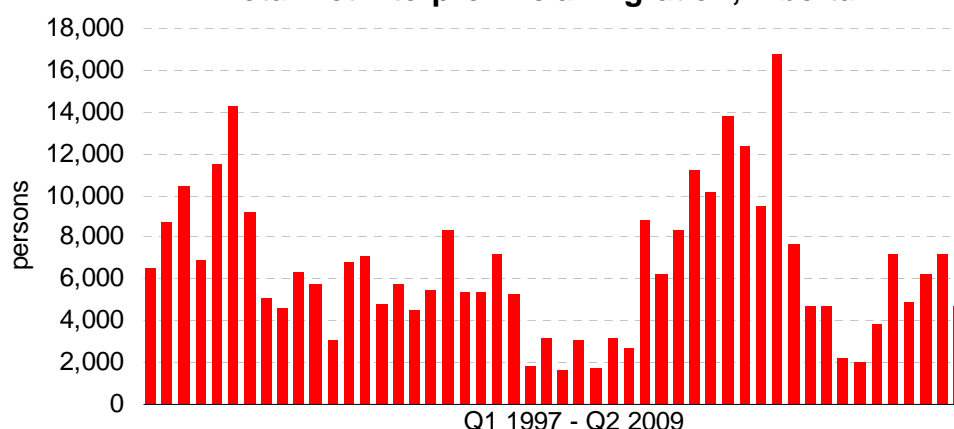
Net interprovincial migration totaled +4,737 individuals in Q2, 2009, down from the 7,144 people who moved here during Q1, but still the highest number in the country. Also contributing to Alberta's population growth was migration from international sources, which totaled 6,623 (excluding temporary and non-permanent residents).

Strong interprovincial and international migration also helped Alberta maintain its lead as the Canadian province

with the fastest growing population (+0.59% in the second quarter). As of July 1, the most recent count, there were 3,687,662 Alberta citizens; a fairly impressive number considering there were fewer than 3 million when the decade began.

Strong immigration is a very important factor in the development and growth of the Albertan economy. It provides a boost to things like retail sales and housing starts and helps to diversify our labour force and alleviate the skills shortage, which is still an impediment to growth in this province. On the flip side though, it can also add strain to government spending programs as demand for things like schools and hospitals grows with the population.

### Total Net Interprovincial Migration, Alberta



Source: Statistics Canada, The Daily, Sept 29, 2009

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Where there's a way