



## Correction

Certain figures in *Act Now: Solutions for Temporary and Migrant Labour in Canada* were incorrect. The revised information is provided and highlighted below. The committee apologizes for this error.

The following content is intended to replace the same sections in the report, originally found on pages 84-87.

### New Brunswick

Throughout 2023, there were a total of 4,410 workers with TFWP permits working in New Brunswick, with 60% (2,645) working in fish and seafood processing.<sup>334</sup> On 1 March 2023, a report was issued by Migrant Workers in the Canadian Maritimes<sup>335</sup> entitled *Unfree Labour: COVID-19 and Migrant Workers in the Seafood Industry in New Brunswick*. The report used qualitative research based on interviews with 15 temporary foreign workers, of which 14 worked in seafood processing and 1 as a mushroom picker.<sup>336</sup> Key findings stated that the 15 TFWs interviewed reported various abuses and mistreatment including exploitative recruitment practices, overcrowded and expensive housing, precarious and dangerous labour conditions, and limited access to health care, among other issues.<sup>337</sup>

During the fact-finding mission, seafood employers in New Brunswick shared their frustration that a limited number of bad actors and experiences continuously stain their entire sector; and that the methodology used during the study focused on limited qualitative data.<sup>338</sup> In 2021, when the research was conducted, there were 1,705 TFWP work permits allocated for seafood

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<sup>334</sup> Government of Canada, "[Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates – Canada – Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective](#)," Open Government, Database, accessed 25 September 2024.

<sup>335</sup> A research and knowledge exchange network linking Dalhousie University, St. Thomas University, the Cooper Institute and the Madhu Verma Migrant Justice Centre.

<sup>336</sup> Raluca Bejan et al., *Unfree Labour: COVID-19 and Migrant Workers in the Seafood Industry in New Brunswick*, Migrant Workers in the Canadian Maritimes, March 2023, pp. 14.

<sup>337</sup> Raluca Bejan et al., *Unfree Labour: COVID-19 and Migrant Workers in the Seafood Industry in New Brunswick*, Migrant Workers in the Canadian Maritimes, March 2023, pp. 4–5.

<sup>338</sup> Seafood processing employers, New Brunswick, Testimony heard during the committee's fact-finding mission.



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processing occupations.<sup>339</sup> The 14 seafood workers surveyed for this report represent **less than 1%** of the total year's population of migrant seafood workers.<sup>340</sup>

However, when members of the committee met with some of the researchers behind the report in New Brunswick, they emphasized the dearth of data generally and, more specifically, the barriers to obtaining statistically significant data.<sup>341</sup> These barriers include a reliance on grassroots organizations with unstable funding, challenges accessing rural and remote workers, and safety and privacy concerns.<sup>342</sup> Therefore, the researcher clarified that the intent of the study was not to be representative as it focused on qualitative, experiential data.<sup>343</sup>

#### Prince Edward Island

In 2023, there were 1,600 TFWP permits for P.E.I. with 50% (800) employed in fish and seafood processing and 35% (560) in agricultural occupations.<sup>344</sup> In June 2021, Migrant Workers in the Canadian Maritimes released a report entitled *Safe at Work, Unsafe at Home: COVID-19 and Temporary Foreign Workers in Prince Edward Island*, drawing on research and qualitative interviews with 15 TFWs who arrived in P.E.I. after the COVID-19 pandemic began. Key findings of this report included that in 2020, the P.E.I. Department of Health and Wellness found that in half of 64 inspections of dwellings housing TFWs, there were “several code violations at multiple houses,” and that housing<sup>345</sup> was “overcrowded,” “expensive” and “inadequate.”<sup>346</sup>

For this report, research was conducted in 2020 with 15 TFWs, which included eight that worked on farms (representing **2%** of agriculture-related TFWP permits) and seven that worked in seafood processing (representing **1%** of seafood processing-related TFWP permits).<sup>347</sup> As with

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<sup>339</sup> Government of Canada, “[Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates – Canada – Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective](#),” Open Government, Database, accessed **25 September** 2024.

<sup>340</sup> Ibid.

<sup>341</sup> Migrant Worker Advocate, New Brunswick, Testimony heard during the committee’s fact-finding mission.

<sup>342</sup> Ibid.

<sup>343</sup> Ibid.

<sup>344</sup> Government of Canada, “[Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates – Canada – Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective](#),” Open Government, Database, accessed **25 September** 2024.

<sup>345</sup> The report notes that housing concerns differed for Temporary Foreign Workers in the agriculture versus seafood industries, with the former depending on their employer to secure their accommodation and the latter renting in the community.

<sup>346</sup> Raluca Bejan et al., *Safe at Work, Unsafe at Home: COVID-19 and Temporary Foreign Workers in Prince Edward Island*, Migrant Workers in the Canadian Maritimes, 1 June 2021.

<sup>347</sup> Ibid. and Government of Canada, “[Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates – Canada – Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit](#)



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the New Brunswick report, this population represents a small proportion of all TFWs in the province. In Prince Edward Island, members had the opportunity to meet with one of the other organizations supporting the report.<sup>348</sup> While emphasizing that it was important not to discount the experiences reported by migrant workers, or qualitative data more generally, they also acknowledged the value of quantitative data and more representative populations.<sup>349</sup> They endorsed collecting more comprehensive data, but noted that as a community organization, their research capacity was limited and directly supporting migrant workers had to take precedence.<sup>350</sup>

### *Yukon*<sup>354</sup>

In 2023, there were 115 TFWP work permits for Yukon, with a majority (80) in various occupations related to film production and the arts.<sup>355</sup> The committee heard that beginning in the 1990s, the majority of immigration to Yukon was from the Philippines and other Asian countries. More recently, cultural diversity has seen more immigrants and migrants from India and African countries. The majority of non-Canadians that make it to Yukon are planning to apply for permanent residence, often through the Yukon Nominee Program. Like many other limited programs, demand exceeded supply in 2023, with 600 applications for 420 spots. However, demand for these spots is not nearly as competitive as in southern Canada, creating an incentive for international students to study, live, work, and apply for permanent residence in the territory.

As in other rural/remote areas of Canada, the committee heard that there are certain barriers at play. “The services in the Yukon are Whitehorse-centric. There is the assumption that if you need services or are accessing public services or other information, Whitehorse is the hub. The infrastructure decreases as you get out to the smaller communities.”

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[holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective,](#)” Open Government, Database, accessed 25 September 2024.

<sup>348</sup> Migrant Worker Advocate, Prince Edward Island, Testimony heard during the committee’s fact-finding mission.

<sup>349</sup> Ibid.

<sup>350</sup> Ibid.

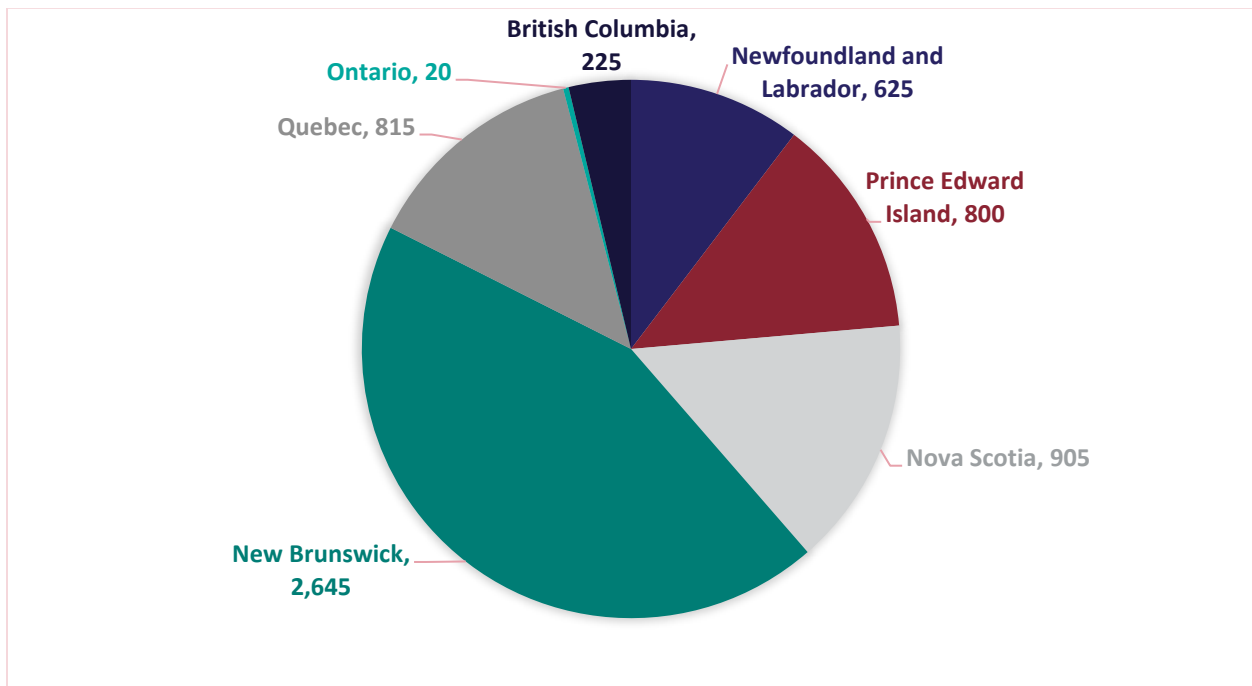
<sup>354</sup> Unless otherwise stated, information in this section is from SOCI, [Evidence](#), 21 September 2023 (Teresa Acheson, President, Yukon Federation of Labour).

<sup>355</sup> Government of Canada, “[Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates - Canada - Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective,](#)” Database, accessed 25 September 2024.



The following content is intended to replace Figure 10, originally found on p. 99 in the report.

**Figure 10: Temporary Foreign Worker Program Work Permits in Occupations Related to Seafood Processing, 2023<sup>393</sup>**



<sup>393</sup> Figure prepared by the Library of Parliament with information from Government of Canada, [“Temporary Residents: Temporary Foreign Worker Program \(TFWP\) and International Mobility Program \(IMP\) Work Permit Holders – Monthly IRCC Updates - Canada - Temporary Foreign Worker Program work permit holders by province/territory of intended destination, intended occupation \(4-digit NOC 2011\) and year in which permit\(s\) became effective,”](#) Open Government Database, accessed 25 September 2024.