



How are Newcomers communicating back home?

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Newcomers still maintain connections to their country of origin even after arriving in Canada. Keeping in touch with friends and family back home is important, as that allows them to maintain emotional support, as well as preserve important cultural connections.

The Reaching Back: Communicating Back Home report looks at some of the ways that newcomers communicate with the friends and family that they left behind when coming to Canada.

Key findings from this report include:

- Communicating with people back home is the most common activity for newcomers to maintain culture or keep in touch with their country of origin. Almost three-fifths (58%) mentioned communicating with friends and family from their home country from our list of activities. Newcomers have a variety of different ways to stay in touch with their culture or country of origin, but this is the most common way.
- Instant messaging apps are the method of choice for newcomers to communicate back home. Four-fifths (81%) of newcomers say that apps like WhatsApp or WeChat represent one of the main ways they contact people in their country of origin.
- Communication preferences vary some by age. 18-24 year olds are more likely to say they use messaging apps to communicate back home, while they are the least likely to make voice calls or to text. Older newcomers (those aged 45 or older) are the most likely to use the long-form methods of email or letter mail to stay connected back home. They are also a bit more likely to make voice calls and text.

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