

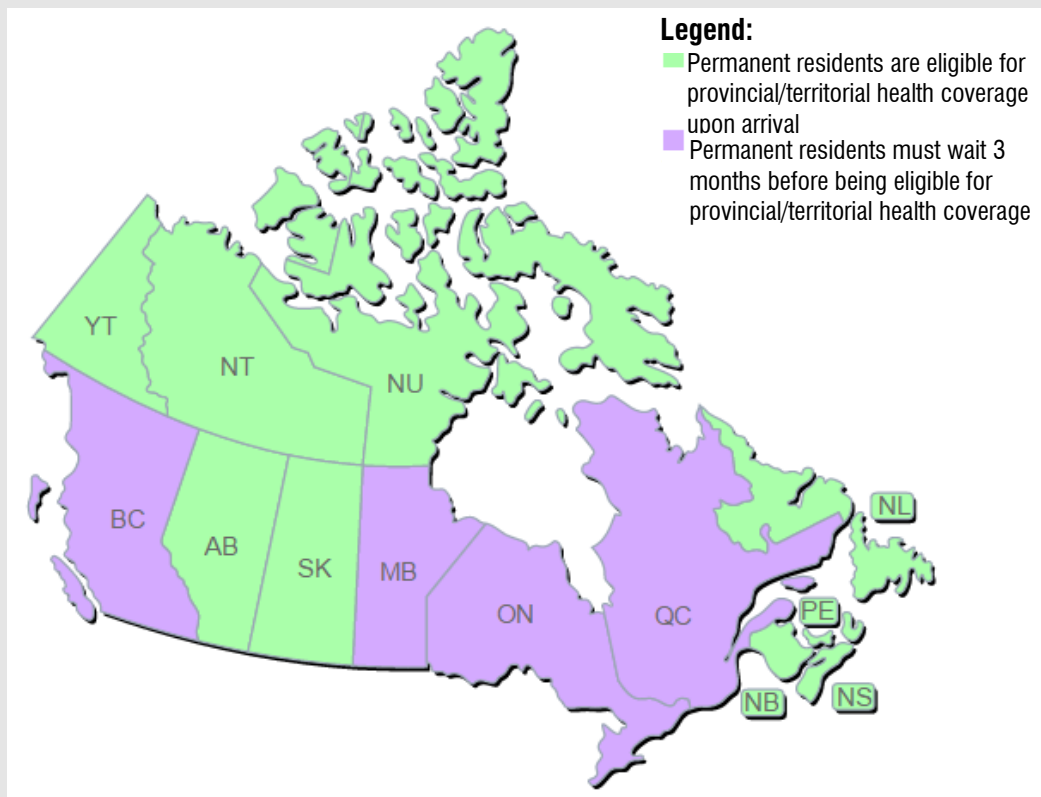


# The Health of Canada's Children and Youth: A CICH Profile

## Health Profile on Immigrant and Refugee Children and Youth in Canada

### Section 2 – General Health Status of Immigrant Children and Youth

#### 2.5.1 Health Coverage for New Child and Youth Permanent Residents in Canada



Not all immigrant and refugee children and youth have exactly the same health coverage across Canada. In most provinces and territories, new permanent residents are provided with full public health coverage from the time they arrive.<sup>1</sup> However, in Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Québec, permanent residents must wait 3 months before being eligible for provincial coverage.<sup>1</sup> In some cases this waiting period is waived. For example, a child under 16 years who is adopted and brought to Ontario will be eligible for health coverage right away.<sup>2</sup> Those who do not receive coverage from the time they arrive are encouraged to apply for private health insurance until their provincial/territorial coverage begins.<sup>1</sup>

It is important for newcomers to Canada to know that although public health insurance is similar across the provinces and territories, there are some differences in the services and products that are covered by provincial/territorial coverage. As many immigrants and refugees do not remain in the province or territory where they first arrived, they will likely be confronted with various provincial/territorial health care systems.

For more information on health care coverage for new permanent residents, visit the [Kids New to Canada](http://www.kidsnewtocanada.ca/care/insurance) website and the [Health Canada](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/ohip/ohip_waiting_pd.aspx) website describing the provincial and territorial roles in health care and information about applying for a health card.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.kidsnewtocanada.ca/care/insurance>;

<sup>2</sup>[http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/ohip/ohip\\_waiting\\_pd.aspx](http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/public/publications/ohip/ohip_waiting_pd.aspx)

