

The chart below indicates the number of passports issued in each region this year.

#### Regular Passports Issued by Region

Central <sup>1</sup>	388,042	21.50%
Eastern	369,437	20.50%
Ontario	621,642	34.50%
Western	425,576	23.50%
CANADA	1,803,697	100%

<sup>1</sup> Includes mailed applications

### Mail Service

Passport applications can also be submitted by mail. Once the application and all required supporting documents have been received in our

office, we aim for a 10-day turnaround. Passports are delivered to applicants by Xpresspost. We estimate that more than 90 percent of mailed applications were processed within the 10-day service objective which represents a decline from last year. This was due to an unusually high peak in demand and resulted in a one-month backlog in the mail service early in 2001. The delay was corrected within three weeks and processing time was reduced to eight days. Our 10-day service standard was met during the rest of the year.

Applications submitted by Canadians residing in the United States are normally processed in eight working days, not including mail or courier delivery times. Passports are returned to US addresses by FEDEX courier.