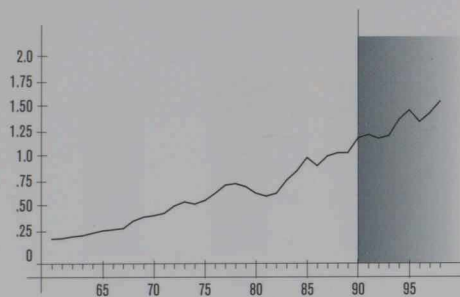


Figure 2 **PASSPORTS ISSUED IN CANADA**  
(in millions)



→	→	→	1998	1,531,080
			1996	1,328,224
			1994	1,350,587
			1992	1,162,755
			1990	1,167,112

#### GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF PASSPORTS ISSUED

When people see a brighter economic future, they tend to travel more. The number of passports issued in Canada has climbed steadily since the early 1990s. Strong economic growth in the latter half of the decade, combined with lower unemployment, made Canadian consumers more confident about being able to afford to travel.

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the Passport Office. Nearly one in every four Canadians falls into this category. (In 1990, one in every five Canadians held a valid passport.)

According to the Conference Board of Canada, the average Canadian traveler is 55 years of age or older and has a better-than-average disposable income. Three out of five Canadians have had at least two passports during their lives.

Where do our applicants travel? Sixty-five percent of Canadian travelers go at least once a year to the U.S. and 40 percent go more than once a year. Forty-five percent of travelers go to countries other than the U.S.

But whatever their age, disposable income, or destination, our applicants generally want five things. First, they want a passport that is respected in all countries. Second, they want passports issued in their names to be tamper-resistant. Third, while they understand that security is a vital concern, they want their passports to be issued within a reasonable time. Fourth, they want the passport application process to be less burdensome. And fifth, they want more accessible points of service and convenient office hours.

#### How does a Canadian traveler obtain a passport?

There are 29 Passport Offices located across the country. An applicant can apply for a passport in person at any of these and pick it up after five business days or have the passport, in certain cases, mailed back to the applicant. Applicants can also apply for a passport by mail and receive it by mail. In this option, the process is longer as the Passport Office normally takes ten business days to process the application.

#### Integrity and security: our strictest priority

The integrity of travel documents and the security of the eligibility process are vitally important both for the Passport Office and for bearers of Canadian documents. Our commitment to integrity and security ensures that Canadian travel documents are trusted and respected throughout the world, and that Canadian citizens traveling abroad are treated with courtesy and respect.

Integrity and security are of paramount importance when we process an application leading to the issuance of a passport in the applicant's name. They are also critical in other Passport Office's activities such as